

**UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA**
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Franco-Albertan writer shines in the spotlight

U of A alumna and former teacher invited to Salon du Livre in Paris

By Geoff McMaster

Most Albertans have probably never heard of Marguerite Primeau, yet she is arguably one of the most talented, and most important, writers in Western Canada. This month the U of A alumna will get at least some of the recognition she deserves at the Salon du Livre in Paris, an international celebration of French publishing.

The Canadian embassy has invited Primeau to represent francophone writers outside of Quebec as part of the province's delegation to the event.

"It's quite an honor to tell you the truth," said Primeau from her home in Vancouver where she has lived for the past 45 years. "I'm not really recognized in B.C. — I'm hardly known. Outside of Quebec, a francophone writer does not have much chance to be recognized."

Dr. Pamela Singh of Faculté Saint-Jean, who has written extensively on her work and was a student of Primeau's in the late '70s, calls the invitation "a big symbolic gesture" for minority French writing in Canada. "It does underline the fact Quebec has had exiles that produce in French in other parts of the country who are often overshadowed by Quebec. [Primeau] is one of the original French-speaking spokesmen for Alberta literature — she has the best writing."

Primeau has written three novels and two collections of short stories and a number of critical articles over a career spanning more than 50 years. Her third novel, *Sauvage Sauvageon*, won the prestigious Prix Champlain in 1986 for best francophone novel in North America (excluding Quebec). As impressive as the prize was, however, it passed virtually unnoticed by Canada's literary establishment, says Singh. "She's been invisible... and this is a problem with minority French writing."



She is one of the original French-speaking spokesmen for Alberta literature — she has the best writing.

— Pamela Singh

Prof. Salter... told me

there wasn't much future writing in French in Western Canada, but he said, 'Go ahead — I admire your tenacity.'

— Marguerite Primeau

Primeau's fiction explores the problem of establishing and maintaining identity away from the cultural centre, says Singh. Her first novel, *Dans le Mouskeg*, is about "the innocent beginnings of bilingualism" in a small francophone settlement in Alberta.

"In a non-victimizing way, you see a peripheral character who somehow finds the courage and energy to glorify her solitude in

terms of liberty and independence," says Singh. "Her characters all go against authority, and against society." Born in St. Paul in 1914, Primeau taught in rural Alberta schools for six years after graduating from high school. She then studied a combination of English and French modern languages at the U of A, receiving her BA in 1946 and her

MA in French in 1948. As a young writer struggling to find her voice, she credits Dr. Frederick Salter — a prolific scholar and creative writing instructor in the English department — with giving her the necessary encouragement.

"If I did any writing, it was thanks to Professor Salter," says Primeau. "He told

She's been invisible...

and this is a problem with minority French writing.

— Pamela Singh

me there wasn't much future writing in French in Western Canada, but he said, 'Go ahead — I admire your tenacity.' He remained a mentor to me until he passed away. He was a marvelous teacher and ...he was the kindest person that I've ever known."

In 1948, Primeau received a bursary from the French government to study at the Sorbonne in Paris. She started her doctorate but quickly became disenchanted and left to teach at a girls' college in Nice for a year before returning to Canada in 1950. In the early '50s she taught conversational French at the U of A and finally received a full-time appointment at UBC in 1954.

She remained there until her retirement in 1979, but surviving in a male-dominated French department all those years was by no means easy, says Singh. When she published her first novel in 1960, no one seemed to care.

"Not only was she a woman, but — being from the Prairies — Albertans were considered hicks. She had a rough time against those men, but she persevered."

Primeau's most recent work is a collection of short stories, *Ol' Man, Ol' Dog et l'enfant et autres nouvelles* (1996). While in Paris, she will read from the just translated *Sauvage Sauvageon* at the Librairie Canadienne. ■

B of M pitches in to help scholarship fund

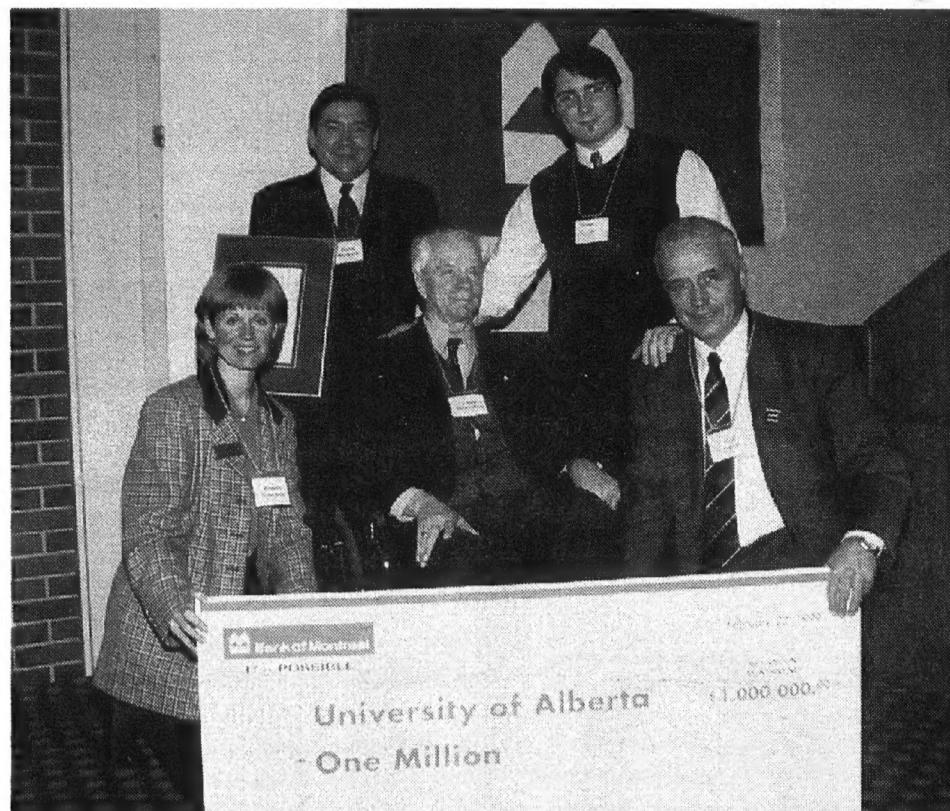
By Geoff McMaster

The Bank of Montreal is donating \$1 million over 10 years for students entering or transferring to their first undergraduate degree program at the U of A. The scholarship is called the Bank of Montreal Citation, awarded under the university's Scholarly Distinction Program and available to students in any area of study.

President Rod Fraser received the gift at a Faculty Club reception last Monday from Pamela Robertson, senior vice-president of the bank's Alberta division.

"A lot of universities were telling us they were focusing on scholarship funds and they needed money for that," says Nada Ristich, the bank's national corporate donations manager. "The focus is not on bricks and mortar anymore — it's on the students themselves ... our main area within our philanthropy program is education."

Ristich says the citation is the largest donation the Bank of Montreal has ever made to a western Canadian university, and the first earmarked specifically for scholarships. Each citation is valued at \$20,000 (\$5,000 per year for four years) and will be presented annually to students with superior academic achievement. In addition to academic standing, candidates will also be



Clockwise: Bank of Montreal's Pamela Robertson and Derral Moriyama, SU's Sheamus Murphy, President Rod Fraser and Dr. Louis Desrochers, Chancellor Emeritus.

assessed according to future academic potential and financial need.

For high-school students, academic standing will include courses taken in Grades 10, 11 and 12. Transfer students will be assessed according to their grade-point average at the institution from which they are transferring. Recipients must have a minimum average of at least 95 per cent.

In the first year of the citation, one \$5,000 scholarship will be awarded, two in the second year, and so on, up to 10 in the final year (or more depending on the earnings of the endowment). The first scholarship will be awarded to a student entering the U of A in September. ■

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA CAMPAIGN

Correction

Due to a printing error by *Gazette Press*, captions for artwork on page 7 in the last issue of *Folio* were inadvertently left off. Credits go to (clockwise): Marc Siegner, *no quiet within*, 1991, lithograph and screenprint; Walter J. Phillips (RCA, LLD), *Cascade*, 1943, watercolor on paper; Liz Ingram, *Coincidental Realities*, 1987, photo-etching, aquatint and drypoint. *Gazette Press* sincerely regrets the error.

folio

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University
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...it makes sense

Federal budget pours dollars into funding agencies

Health research to benefit

By Geoff McMaster

While last week's federal budget appeared to overlook post-secondary education, a substantial investment in national research funding will have a direct impact on our universities, says President Rod Fraser.

"There were some good news parts of that budget without question," he says, adding a healthier research environment will even carry over into the undergraduate classroom. "I don't think there's any question there'll be a direct impact on the learning environment for students... more favorable funding on the research side will allow us to attract and retain outstanding professors to the university. So many of those professors outstanding in research are also very good teachers."

The federal government announced the creation of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, beginning in 2000-01. It has set aside \$65 million for the institutes' first year of operation and indicated it will increase funding to \$175 million in the second year. Over the next three years, the budget allows for an increase in funding of health-related research of \$150 million. On

an annual basis, these increases will include:

- \$27.5 million to the Medical Research Council
- \$7.5 million to the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council
- \$7.5 million to the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council
- \$5 million to the National Research Council
- \$2.5 million to the Health Canada's National Health Research and Development Program.

The government has committed \$200 million for the Canada Foundation for Innovation, adding to an initial \$800 million endowment set up in 1997 for research infrastructure in the areas of health, the environment, science and engineering. It will also spend \$90 million for Networks of Centres of Excellence over three years to support partnerships among world-class researchers and the private sector across Canada, and has created a \$25-million Canadian Health Services Research Foun-

There was no answer to
a lot of the problems that
we face [as students].

— Sheamus Murphy

dation endowment for nursing research.

However while Students' Union President Sheamus Murphy welcomed increased funding for research, agreeing it will help in attracting and retaining faculty, he

says he was nonetheless "disappointed" by the budget.

"We realized it's health care's year," he says. "Hopefully when that's dealt with they can start to look towards post-secondary education... there was no answer to a lot of the problems that we face [as students]."

He added last year's budget began addressing some of those problems — the most pressing of which is ever-increasing tuition — with a program of debt relief, student work programs, and the announcement of the \$2.5 billion Canada Millennium Scholarships.

"What's really needed next is a real infusion into the universities and not into students' pockets. The reason they're increasing tuition... is a funding shortfall, and it starts at the top." ■

Web Watch

By Randy Pavelich

This column is a regular feature in Folio highlighting interesting Web sites in the wide (and wild) world of the Internet. We appreciate your input. If you know of good sites you think the university community will be interested in, pass the addresses along to Randy Pavelich, university Web manager at: info@ualberta.ca.

From Memphis to the moon

<http://elfuego.magibox.net/>

Take one surplus Russian space shuttle, polish up a 1992 Geo Tracker, pack some sandwiches and a cat, and you have a lunar landing mission for a tiny fraction of what it would cost NASA. Why didn't someone think of this before? This is a funny little site with some very notable graphical content. If you ask nicely, the pilot might even bring back some moon rocks for your garden...

The dihydrogen monoxide research division

<http://www.cis.udel.edu/~way/DMRD/>

A great deal of effort has gone into creating a site that looks very much like an authentic research site, complete with reference links and high-level technical jargon. Just be forewarned, however, that it is a spoof from top to bottom: dihydrogen monoxide is, after all, simply water. It all depends on your perspective (and sense of humor), and while this is not a site useful for real research, it does raise some interesting issues involving the reliability of material available on the Internet.

Canadian Pulp and Paper Association

<http://www.open.doors.cppa.ca/>

It's either appropriate or ironic that an association focused on forest product producers should have such a nice site. The

graphics are attractive and have a consistent look. There is a lot of material available here designed for all age groups, including a cute little find-the-object game for school-age children. The game requires a Java-enabled browser, but has many sounds and animations to keep youngsters entertained.

Department of Chemical & Materials Engineering

<http://www.ualberta.ca/chemeng/cmehome/>

I have always liked this site's graphics — bold, bright and informative. It's well laid-out with a simple yet comprehensive list of links. It seems very easy to find specific information on this site, which is a big plus. The pictorial tours of buildings, labs and shops are a nice touch, although one could wish for a bit more information on the research undertaken by faculty and students.

The new philanthropy

Simply writing a cheque doesn't cut it anymore for today's young donor

By Lucianna Ciccocioppo

They're young. They're successful. And they have money and time to give away. Just don't expect to see them in black ties and ball gowns any time soon. They'd rather roll up their sleeves and make sure their donations start working. Fast.

With super-techie like Bill Gates of Microsoft fame and Michael Dell of Dell Computer Corporation setting up private multimillion-dollar foundations, charity balls, United Way rallies and pain-staking review processes are out. Executives want new ways to tackle social ills, and frequently it means applying their business acumen to their volunteer projects to get things rolling quickly.

"It's a realization of need and awareness as to how charities function," says Daria Luciw, a University of Alberta alumna (BA '80) and local fundraising consultant with the DL Group. "And the one thing that I think has come across, in terms of awareness, is an understanding among donors, at all levels, as to how those donations are collected."

Call it the new philanthropy. Gone are the days of writing a big, fat cheque to a charity and then standing back. This generation of donors wants tangible benefits immediately.

"They want their money going purely into making things happen," adds Luciw. "The more you can make things happen, the more you can leave a legacy and the more you can influence improvements in the community."

Jennifer Welsh, a partner and consultant with d-Code, a research firm based in

Toronto, has looked at the attitudes of what she calls the "Nexus" generation, people 18-35 — younger than Boomers, but older than the Echo boomers. She's co-author of *Chips & Pop — d-coding the nexus generation*. Welsh says this genera-

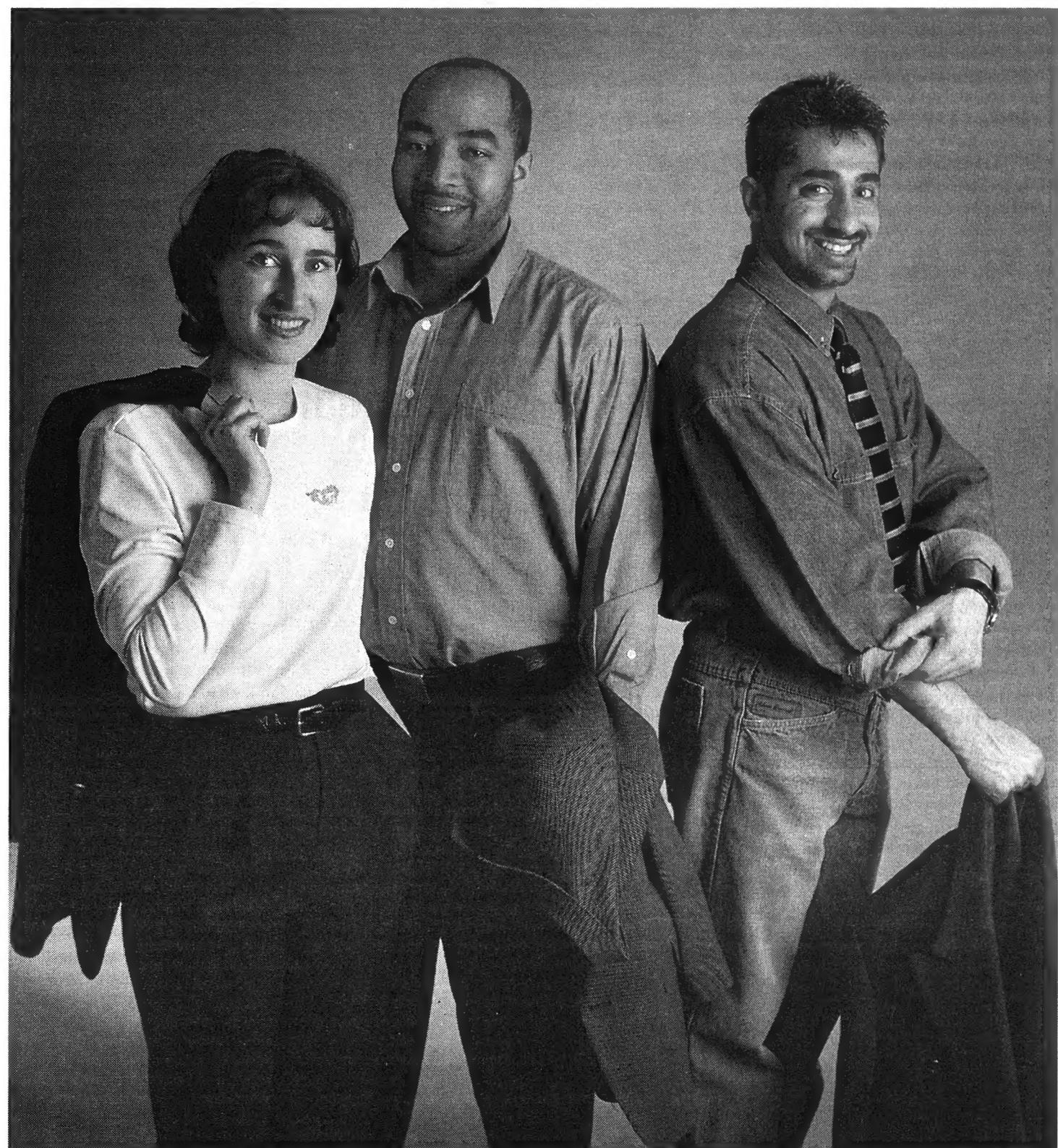
tion is skeptical of large, faceless institutions, which makes them reluctant to give. But, at the same time, there's a real desire to belong and feel their impact in society.

"There's an ironic tension that exists with this generation. They're the first to feel the effects of globalization but they're extremely attracted to the idea of community. If you ask them if they're optimistic about the future of Canada, they're unlikely to say yes. But if you ask them if they're optimistic about their local community, they will probably say yes," explains Welsh.

More important, there's a recognition in this information age, adds Welsh, that the path from school, to career, to retirement, plus whatever you do outside of work, is changing. "In the Industrial Age model, you went to school, worked for 30 years, retired then gave back to the community. It's not necessarily happening in that order anymore," says Welsh. People change careers and are constantly upgrading, learning at different points in their lives. "They're not waiting until retirement

I call it 'soul food'. You can have all the earthly food and treasures. You are dead without 'soul food.'

— Sam Kolias, on why he set up a charitable foundation



Tina Chang

The new philanthropists: a generation skeptical of large, faceless institutions...but committed to helping social causes and issues in their community.

to give back." And when they do, they tend to give to causes and social issues rather than institutions.

Take Sam Kolias, for example. The 37-year-old president of multi-million dollar property company, Boardwalk Equities Inc., says his charitable passions are with the homeless and the poor. He and his brother set up their own foundation last year.

"I call it 'soul food,'" explains Kolias on why he gives. "You can have all the earthly food and treasures. You are dead without 'soul food.'"

Kolias says the changing nature of philanthropy is in keeping with general attitude changes towards belt-tightening on conspicuous consumption.

"Giving is as unique to someone as their fingerprint. Current day norms may influence the way people give. Some economic times are very conspicuous with their consumption; others are not," says Kolias, citing the early '80s as a period of conspicuous consumption. "Today, people

are generally less conspicuous about their consumption and perhaps it is influencing the way they are giving."

"The reality, particularly with young business owners," says d-code's Welsh, "is it has to make good business sense as well. There has to be a connection to business success."

The younger generations view the voluntary sector as a great way to gain skills. "There's a melding together of altruism and self-interest — which has probably always been there — but now it's very up front," says Welsh. "You can choose to lament that, and say, 'Gee, whatever happened to the days when we all did this out of pure altruism.' Or, you can say, 'This is a real opportunity to leverage the fact that people do want to participate in this sector.'"

And they're not the only ones. The "me generation", a.k.a. the Baby Boomers, has matured with a keen interest, and commitment, in philanthropy. Raised as idealists, they put others ahead of themselves. This

is how they seek personal fulfillment. And while they may not all be multimillionaires, they do have money to give.

In her book *Global Demographics, Fundraising for a New World*, Dr. Judith Nichols writes: "Boomers will account for 40 per cent of the developed world's spending power by the turn of the century. Household income for the 35-50 age group will leap 90 per cent. That's in comparison to a 50 per cent growth projected of the public as a whole."

But just like their younger counterparts, Boomers prefer basic causes related to social needs, want to see instant results in their immediate community, and, because they're cynical of fund-raising tactics, need to be convinced to give.

For today's young corporate citizens, Welsh says the whole language around philanthropy needs to change.

"We have to start talking about it in business terms, using the rationale of building a better workforce and philanthropy playing an educational role." ■

Another 'Rising Star' at the U of A

Award one of several given by Council for the Advancement and Support of Education

By Roger Armstrong

Gina Wheatcroft is a self-professed news junkie: *Emergency*, *60 Minutes*, *Entertainment Tonight*, *20/20* — she catches them all. She knows watching too much TV is not good for a person but she can't help herself. "I love human interest stories," says Wheatcroft, who enjoys spending time watching the tube during winter months.

The news stories provide her with details. And Wheatcroft, manager of alumni branches in Alumni Affairs, loves details. She says her attention to the small things is part of her success to date. "Small details make or break an event."

Wheatcroft has just received the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) District VIII Rising Star Award, the second consecutive time a U of A staff person has picked it up. Lara Minja, in graphic design and photography services, won it last year. No small feat

since CASE District VIII includes Alaska, Alberta, British Columbia, Idaho, Manitoba, Montana, Northwest Territories, Oregon, Saskatchewan, Washington and Yukon. Awards are judged by peers in the industry.

The Rising Star Award recognizes the accomplishments of

promising individuals whose early success bodes well for future leadership and achievement. Innovation, professionalism and strong leadership qualities are what judges look for. Susan Peirce, director of alumni affairs, says Wheatcroft has all that and more.

"Everything Gina does is a special project," says Peirce. "She's really inspirational. She is very skilled at getting others excited about the project and involved in it." Wheatcroft won the award in part due to her success with Reunion Weekend. Last year's reunion broke attendance records at all events, due to Wheatcroft's efforts and enthusiasm, adds Peirce. What particularly impressed her, says Peirce, was Wheatcroft's work on the gala dinner. It attracted 912 people in 1998, up from 620 the year before.



U of A's "Rising Star," Gina Wheatcroft.

Wheatcroft is pleased, and flattered, with the recognition. "To be picked out and receive special recognition reemphasizes what you are doing is right, that you're on the right track. And it's a great motivator," says Wheatcroft. She is bringing her energy and enthusiasm to her new position as manager of alumni branches and she has no plans to rest on her previous accomplishments.

Dr. Terry Flannigan, acting associate vice-president (external affairs), says "I've watched her work as special events coordinator and she does it with such enthusiasm and excitement that I am not surprised she won the award." Flannigan and several others from the U of A recently collected 14 awards in Portland, Ore. for their work at the 1999 CASE District VIII Recognition Program.

When Flannigan first arrived at the U of A, there was a general consensus the university would have trouble competing with the big universities from the U.S., he recalls. Things have changed in recent years. The U of A is the first university to have won the Ginny Carter Smith Grand Crystal Award (the Grey Cup of communications awards) two times in a row. And the U of A had two of six nominations for this year's award. Plus, for the first time, *Folio* picked up a bronze in its category.

"We are the 'big boys'. We don't hold our head down to any institution in North America — we go head to head. We have the people and the quality," says Flannigan. "When you put anything an institution like ours does and compare it against others, it tells us that we are doing things correctly. It's another way of recognizing the work that is being done." ■

1999 CASE Awards to the University of Alberta:

- Gold and Grand Gold, Public Relations — 90th Anniversary Celebrations
- Gold and Grand Gold, Annual or Biennial Reports — 1998 Annual Report to the Community
- Silver, Overall Publication Design — International Human Rights Conference Package
- Silver, Alumni Relations — First International Convocation, Hong Kong
- Silver, Fundraising — 1999 Alumni Calendar
- Silver, Exhibition and Special Event Publications — Reunion Weekend Materials
- Bronze, Overall Publication Design — Alumni Reunion Weekend Package
- Bronze, Individual Design — University of Alberta 90th Anniversary Poster
- Bronze, Alumni Relations — Alumni Reunion Weekend '98
- Bronze, Tabloids — *Folio*
- Bronze, Anniversary Publications — 90th Anniversary edition of *Folio*
- Bronze, Annual or Biennial Reports, Research and Science Report on Faculty — Faculty of Science
- Rising Star Award — Gina Wheatcroft
- Retirement Award — Terry Flannigan

»quick »facts

On-line community set to transform local government

A new virtual community is gearing up to go on-line, helping municipalities conduct their daily business and educating the public on municipal issues.

Called MuniMall.net — a \$1.6 million joint venture between Alberta Municipal Affairs and the University of Alberta — the Internet site will provide "life-long learning opportunities and new ways to communicate" for anyone interested in municipal issues and developments, says Municipal Affairs Minister Iris Evans. A network of links will tap into a wide range of existing and new information sources. The project is funded through the Municipal 2000 Sponsorship Program and the U of A will contribute \$280,000 over the first two years.

The site will allow engineering companies, for example, to offer their services on-line. Municipalities may also use it to tender infrastructure and construction projects, and municipal officials will be

A comprehensive approach to life-long learning, offering access to information, people and resources around the world at any time.

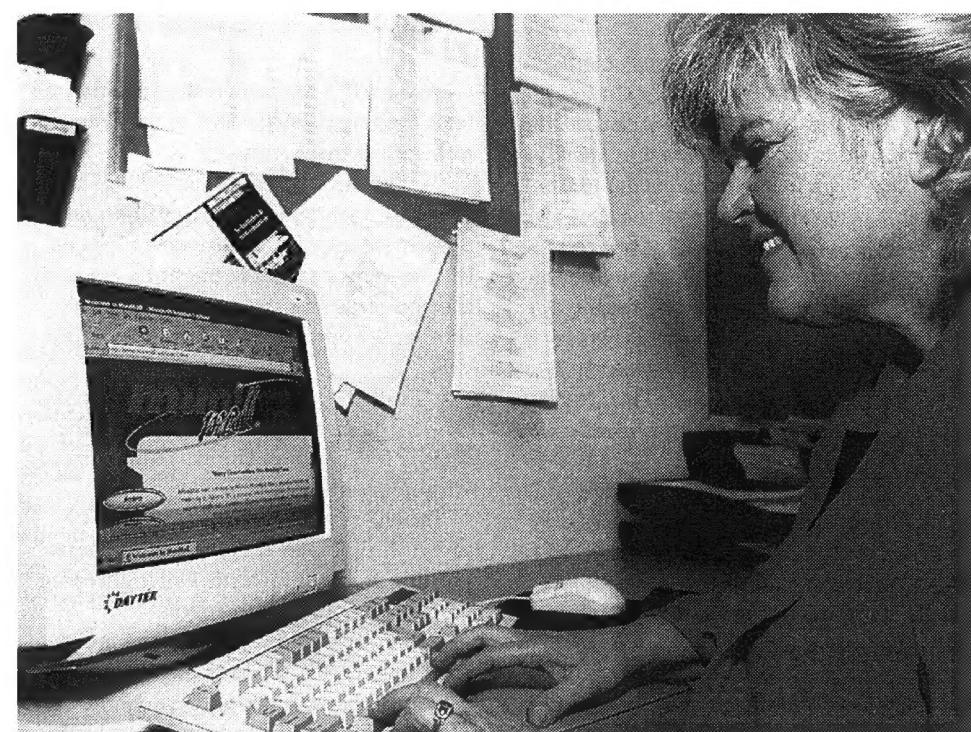
— Bert Einsiedel

able to meet each other through chat rooms and Web conferencing. The U of A will oversee the project's development and operation for the first two years.

Dr. Bert Einsiedel, executive director of the university's Institute for Professional Development, says anyone interested in municipal government will have access to the Local Government Certificate Program on-line

through the Faculty of Extension's Government Studies Program. The first courses will be available by September, 1999, and new courses will be added each semester. Einsiedel calls the site "a comprehensive approach to life-long learning, offering access to information, people and resources around the world at any time."

You can find the Web site at www.MuniMall.net. It will feature regular updates and information on the progress of the project until the network is officially up and running this spring. ■



Minister of Municipal Affairs Iris Evans checks out the new MuniMall Website. Recently launched at the Faculty of Extension conference, Municipal Government: The Art of the Possible, the electronic meeting place will be useful for municipalities to exchange ideas, find information and conduct business.

Sean Connor, Edmonton Sun

The 1999 federal (research) budget

By Dr. Bill McBlain, associate vice-president, research

The one time which I remember from my research career at the University of Alberta was a day in the late '90s when the federal government finally responded to our pleas for increased research funding so that we were able to..."

Memories of select events stay with us for our lifetime. We remember a first day of school, or university, or work. We readily recall a special journey, birthday, or examination. For researchers in Canada, Feb. 16, 1999 will ultimately prove to have hosted just such an unforgettable event. Years from now, our researchers may not remember the exact date, but they will remember that just before the new millennium, the Canadian government demonstrated a carefully considered commitment to research and thereby affected the lives of all Canadians.

That may sound like exaggerated text, edited from Finance Minister Paul Martin's budget speech. However, consider the following facts taken from that budget:

1. The Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) have been created and have a budget of \$65 million in 2000-01 and \$175 million in 2001-02.
2. Building on the initiative of the 1998 federal budget, more money will be provided to the three federal granting councils as follows:
 - i) Medical Research Council (MRC): Additional \$27.5 million per year for the next three years.
 - ii) Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC):

Additional \$32.5 million per year for the next three years (\$7.5 million for health-related research).

iii) Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC): Additional \$12.5 million for the next three years (\$7.5 million for health-related research).

3. The Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI), established in the federal budget of 1997, will receive an additional \$200 million.

4. The Networks of Centres of Excellence (NCEs) will receive an additional \$30 million per year for the next three years with new networks to be added.

5. Biotechnology research and development, including Canada's participation in genome research, will receive \$55 million over the next three years.

6. The National Research Council (NRC) will receive an additional \$5 million and the National Health Research and Development Program (NHRDP) an additional \$2.5 million per year for the next three years.

7. Additional one-time endowments for 1998-99 will go to the Canadian Health Services Research Foundation (CHSRF) (\$35 million) and the program, Nurses Using Research and Service Evaluations (NURSE)

(\$25 million to create a 10-year program), for research into the many facets of the delivery of health care.

8. An investment of \$60 million over the next three years will establish "Smart Cities" for demonstrations of the use of information and communications technologies. And, a further \$60 million over the next five years will establish "GeoConnections" whereby Canadian geographic information will be made available on the World Wide Web for mapping, search and rescue, and studies of climate change. As well, the Canada Space Agency (CSA) will receive an additional \$430 million over three years with a subsequent budget stabilization at \$300 million per year.

These are all items relating specifically to the 1999 federal budget's support for research. Also important, of course, and complementary to the research support, was the announcement of the Canada Health and Social Transfer (CHST) funds to the provinces (a total of \$11.5 billion over the next five years; this amount, even corrected for inflation and population growth and aging, should bring stability to this sector). Overall, this is a health and innovation budget and, hopefully, contains only the

first steps in moving Canada towards the forefront of nations seeking pre-eminence in knowledge-based economies.

Why will University of Alberta researchers always remember this budget? The University of Alberta is potentially uniquely poised to be a major recipient of a well-deserved portion of the funding increases. This university had representation and direct input into the establishment of the CIHR. The U of A is ranked third in the country in NSERC and SSHRC funding and fifth for MRC support (second-ranked in the September 1998 MRC grant competition). We participate in all fourteen current NCEs and are headquarters for two of them. We have researchers working on aspects of the majority of the other initiatives listed above.

We will be able to benefit in a major way from this 1999 federal budget. It may be obvious our researchers will find more funding available to support their research. In turn, this will make the U of A more attractive when recruiting or retaining researchers (the so-called "brain-drain" may be inhibited). The achievement of the U of A potential pre-supposes the core operating budget will receive the needed support requested from the provincial government.

However, we are really going to have to prepare quickly if we are to realize our full potential and take maximal advantage of the challenges and opportunities afforded by this budget. Don't worry — our planning process has begun! ■

Years from now, our
researchers may not
remember the exact date,
but they will remember
that just before the new
millennium, the Canadian
government demonstrated
a commitment to research.

Health Minister Allan Rock makes U of A pit stop

Tours high-tech health projects, reaffirms commitment to public health care

By Lucianna Cicciocoppo

Federal Health Minister Allan Rock got a first-hand look at the importance of telehealth services to remote communities when visiting the U of A's Walter MacKenzie Health Sciences Centre Feb. 23 — the live ultrasound demonstration was curtailed because of an emergency that morning.

But a videotape showed the importance of ante-natal care for women living in High Level, one of the places where the telehealth consultation service is offered with U of A specialists. Rock also saw a fractured femur and an electrocardiogram. Both patients were stabilized thanks to consultation through the telehealth service.

It was one stop on the minister's "health-care budget" western tour, promoting the multi-billion dollar infusion into provincial health coffers. Along with Justice Minister Anne McLellan and Alberta's Health Minister Halvar Jonson, Rock also viewed a demonstration of the Spatial Public Health Information Network Exchange, or SPHINX. It focuses on gathering, interpreting and sharing information to help health professionals make better diagnoses and more informed decisions on treatments.

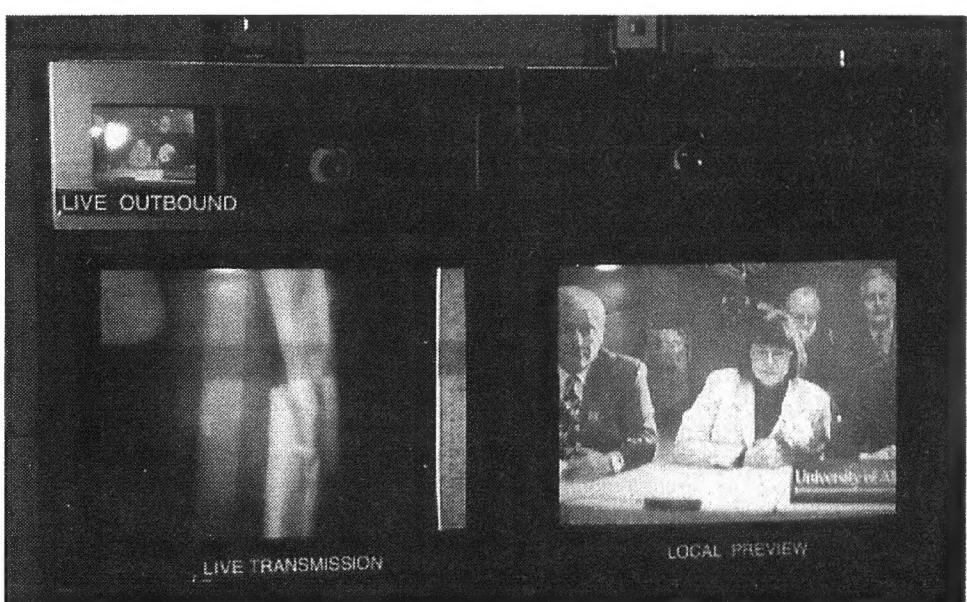
"If we are to build a better health system, we need a better information-sharing system," said Rock. "With the federal investment in the health lane on the information highway, we all stand to benefit."

Dr. Tom Noseworthy, chair of the Department of Public Health Sciences, said the telehealth service is one connection to SPHINX. "Alberta has the distinct advantage of telecommunications and tele-health expertise" to be part of the network and help improve overall health-care delivery services, added Noseworthy during the demonstration.

Noseworthy was co-chair of the Advisory Council on Health Infrastructure, whose recommendations in the report *Canada Health Infoway* included increased federal funding to improve health information.

Speaking later in Canada's two official languages, in front of about 300 people in Bernard Snell Hall, Rock said "There can be no doubt Canadians are worried about health care." But he reaffirmed the federal government's commitment to the Canada Health Act, whose principles "must remain paramount."

"We cannot have a system in which



Viewing a fractured femur of a patient in High Level, Alta.

access to medically necessary services depends on how much money you have in your pocket...It's not the way we're going to go in this country — not now, not ever," said Rock to applause.

But at the same time, Rock said the health-care system has always included private services deemed not medically necessary, like eye care and other services allowed under the health act.

Rock said better health promotion, treatment and care, increased information sharing in an integrated system, and measuring outcomes are key to improving Canada's health system. ■



President Rod Fraser, Justice Minister Anne McLellan, Health Minister Allan Rock, and provincial Health Minister Halvar Jonson watch a telehealth demonstration in the U of A's Walter MacKenzie Health Sciences Centre.

Canada's peatlands could crawl further north

Global warming seen as cause, impact could be devastating

By Barbara Every

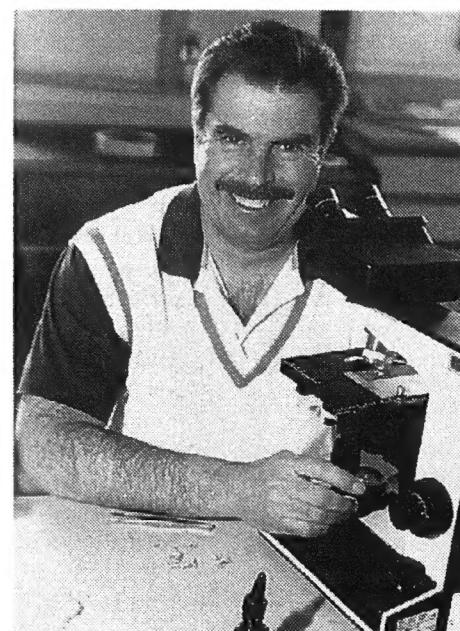
Most gardeners worth their green thumbs are familiar with the practice of laying peat on the garden to help preserve moisture and add beneficial nutrients to the soil. But to Dr. Dennis Gignac, peat is remarkable not only for its capacity to hold water, but also for an altogether different property — its potential for predicting the future.

A plant ecologist in the Faculté Saint-Jean, Gignac has been studying climate change and its effects on ecosystems for 15 years. His latest research focuses on peatlands (wet areas composed of dead plant matter up to six metres deep) of the Mackenzie River Basin in northern Canada, a vast part of continental western Canada running from the basin of the Athabasca River at its southern end to the Arctic in the north.

Gignac is the only researcher at the university to use climate-sensitive peatlands to predict changes in the environment. He says these plants are ideal because they respond so quickly. "By moving north or south in a peatland ecosystem today, you can see the same results as if you had waited for 20 years in one spot for the climate to change." From his model, Gignac predicts global warming could cause peatland distribution to shift northward, ultimately altering northern communities and lifestyles as we know them today.

Speaking at a seminar series on climate change sponsored by the Environmental Research and Studies Centre and funded by TransAlta Corporation, Gignac said he looked at the relationship between climate, peatland distribution and concentration of atmospheric carbon dioxide. Carbon dioxide and other trace gases normally blanket the Earth and re-radiate heat downward — hence the term "greenhouse gases" — but when they accumulate at higher than normal levels, global warming results.

By combining the data from his peatlands model with that of general circulation models (GCMs), Gignac created a snapshot of current conditions. From that he hoped to predict "what would happen if the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere was doubled and therefore what would happen to other ecosystems in the Mackenzie River Basin."



Dennis Gignac: using climate-sensitive peatlands to predict changes in the environment.

He analysed 82 peatlands throughout the region for plant species, pH, height above the water table and climatic variables. From this data, Gignac segregated the peatlands into seven groups and identified "a plant indicator species" for each. To test his model for classifying peatlands correctly and placing them in the proper climatic and geographical zones, he compared his data to 100 other peatland sites and combined it

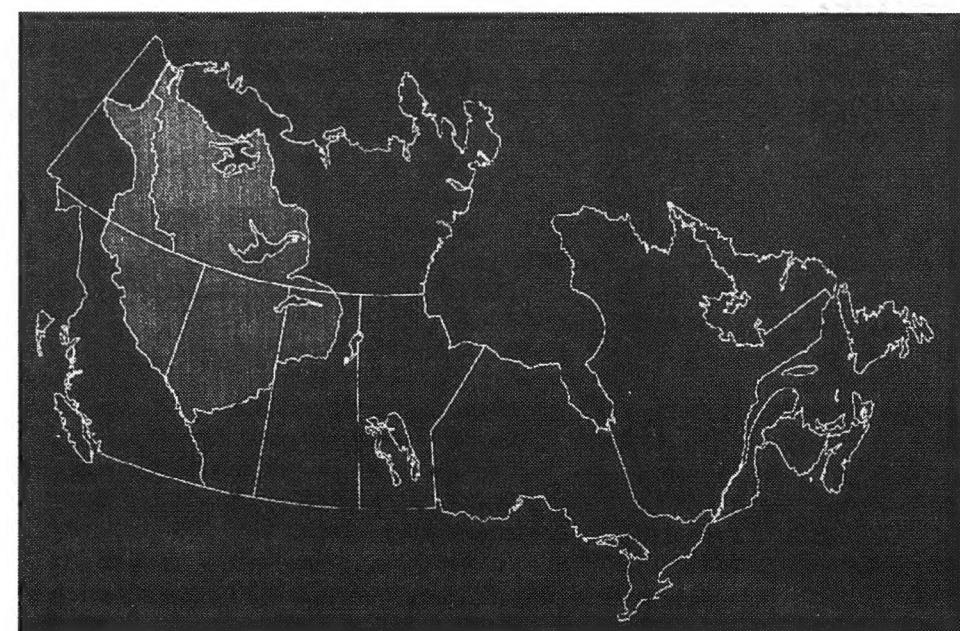
with GCM data. It turns out, at current levels of carbon dioxide, his model is about 88 per cent accurate.

Gignac next calculated the results for twice the level of atmospheric carbon dioxide. The results are startling: his model predicts when plants adapt to this climate, "water evaporation will increase in southern areas, permafrost will disappear in northern areas and peatland ecosystems will shift

northward by about 500 km."

northern areas and peatland ecosystems will shift northward by about 500 km."

Based on his projections and data from a 1997 report by Stewart Cohen on the Mackenzie Basin, Gignac outlined other possible serious consequences of global warming. In the south there could be more drying, lower water levels in lakes and rivers, and more fires. A decrease in the commercial forest harvest and an increase in wheat production — but with greater irrigation needs — could be among the socioeconomic results.



Focusing on peatlands of the Mackenzie River Basin in northern Canada, a vast part of continental western Canada running from the basin of the Athabasca River at its southern end to the Arctic in the north.



Gignac predicts global warming could cause peatland distribution to shift northward, ultimately altering northern communities and lifestyles as we know them today.

But it is in the north the impact of global warming will be felt most sharply. According to Gignac, when the permafrost declines, the "soil turns to mush and banks slide into rivers." The eventual impact of massive soil erosion on northern communities on the Mackenzie River "could translate into an end to traditional aboriginal lifestyles."

When asked by a member of the audience if a difference in precipitation could alter his predictions, Gignac acknowledged it could. But he says, "It's a two-edged sword — there could be more precipitation than predicted and there

could be less." Less precipitation would accelerate the effects of global warming.

Gignac hopes to build his model on a North American scale by heading east and north to Ontario, Quebec, the Maritimes and the subArctic. He stresses his model only tells us what ecosystems "want to do" if the globe warms up — how long it will take for them to redistribute is unknown. On the other hand, since peatlands are geared to the water table, "if it dries out a little, the whole vegetation complex changes," so the effects on plant life would be seen within only a few years. ■

Scholarships attracting more students with 90+ averages

More than \$5 million in awards offered this year

By Lucianna Ciccocioppo

More than 2400 high school students applied for scholarships to enter the U of A this September, with 692 receiving Academic Excellence Scholarships.

That's up 250 applications so far over last year. And about 100 applications are still pending. Final Grade 11 marks are needed to determine scholarship eligibility.

In total, the number of student admissions in the 90+ category is up 52 per cent, since 1994, the first year of the Academic Excellence program, says Ron Chilibek, director of student awards.

This year, there are 81 applicants for 1999 registration with averages of 95 per cent or higher and 611 with 90 per cent and above.

About \$5,428,000, or 5100 awards, have been offered to Grade 12 students in the competition.

"They know about us...We hit students with information *before* making decisions, not after. It's too late to contact them in March or April," he says.

Alberta Grade 12 students are offered scholarship information in September and October. In addition, the on-line registration was running for the first time and received almost 500 hits. Chilibek suspects once the kinks are worked out and the admission process simplified, applications will be up on-line.

At the same time, the number of students admitted with averages between 80-

90 per cent has dropped slightly by 5 per cent, to 1310 over the same time period.

The reason? "There's no money for those averages," says Chilibek. "Scholarships make a difference."

Some faculties do provide scholarships, ranging for averages 80 per cent and above, such as in agriculture, forestry and home economics, engineering, nursing and Faculté Saint-Jean. Arts, business and science offer scholarships for averages 90+.

Chilibek adds the university needs to find funds for students in the 80+ range. "For a small amount of money, we could get a large bang for our buck." These students, ignored by the "Big Three" universities, head to the colleges and transfer programs instead, says Chilibek.

All Academic Excellence Scholarship nominees receive a "limited edition" specially designed Academic Excellence T-shirt, along with a letter of congratulations from President Rod Fraser. ■

Breakdown of 1999 applicants by Grade 11 averages:

- 95 per cent +: 81
- 90 per cent +: 611
- 85 per cent +: 1342
- 80 per cent +: 1920

>> quick >> facts

Challenged by the oil sands

Karl Clark (1888-1966)

By Geoff McMaster

Karl Clark once remarked of the Athabasca Oil Sands, "They have been a taunt to North America for generations. They wear a smirk which seems to say, 'When are you going to do something?'" After devoting his life to tapping this elusive resource, Clark died just nine months before commercial production on the sands began in 1967. While he devised his hot-water flotation process in the early 1920s, a modified version of it is still used today to separate oil from the sands at the world's largest single oil deposit.

Born in Georgetown, Ont. in 1888, Clark studied at McMaster University and the University of Illinois, graduating with a PhD in physical chemistry in 1915. He then took up research positions with the Geological Survey of Canada and the Bureau of Mines. Impressed with Clark's knowledge of tar sands, Henry Marshall Tory (the university's first president) hired him in 1920 as the first employee of a new research body, the precursor to the Alberta Research Council.

Clark's initial research was far removed from the concept of fuel, however. Having served as chief road materials engineer with the federal government, he knew the sands were an excellent material for paving roads. But the only way to transport and market the material successfully was to separate as much of the oil as possible from the bulky sands. Clark had some success with separation in his Ottawa lab using an emulsifying agent, but it was in the basement of the University of Alberta's power plant that he

came up with the hot-water method still used in the petroleum industry.

The process itself seemed simple enough. It involved mixing a slurry of strip-mined, oil-bearing sand with steam and hot water and then skimming the bitumen tar off the top. It took several years, however, to develop and refine the process to successfully produce refinery-grade synthetic crude, and decades to convince industry mining the oil sands was an attractive venture.

Initially, the most daunting challenge for Clark was to reproduce his small experimental operation in a full-scale plant. Clark built one at the Dunvegan Yards on

Edmonton's northern boundary, but his first attempts at oil recovery were a dismal failure. Although he and his assistants fed 100 tonnes of feed into the process, much of the oil failed to separate at all. Clark closed the plant and went back to the drawing board.

It didn't take him long to figure out what was wrong. After adjusting the amount of agitation in the mixing box and discovering weathered sands resisted separation, he opened the plant again in

1925. Shortly afterwards he sent 45 litres of his crude oil to the Universal Oil Products Company in Chicago for analysis. The company confirmed the oil was clean enough for refinement, and could be used to produce gasoline, fuel oils and kerosene.

Clark continued his research in two pilot plants sponsored by the provincial government, one built at Clearwater in 1930 and one at Bitamont in 1949. At

His students "learned more than the technical aspects of metallurgy from him; they learned the wider significance of truth, responsibility and devotion to a cause."

— George Ford



This thriving Alberta oil-sands industry is Karl Clark's legacy.

Clearwater, Clark would make a crucial refinement to make separation easier — neutralizing the acidity of water mixed with raw sands.

The Bitamont experiment was to prove a milestone in oil-sands history. By 1950 it had clearly demonstrated Clark's process could produce clean oil. But potential investors were still wary of gambling

on bitumen. In 1950, Clark's former colleague Sid Blair wrote a report for the Alberta government on the economic viability of the sands, concluding that a barrel of crude could be extracted from the sands, processed, and delivered to Ontario for \$3.10. The market price per barrel then was \$3.50. "The Blair Report," writes Clark's daughter Mary Sheppard in *Oil Sands Scientist*, "spawned the commercial industry as we know it today."

While exploiting the oil sands was a major preoccupation of Clark's career, he was also a gifted teacher. He joined the University of Alberta's Department of Mining and Metallurgy in 1938, and was head of the department from 1947 until his retirement in 1954. According to George Ford, his students "learned more than the technical aspects of metallurgy from him; they learned the wider significance of truth, responsibility and devotion to a cause."

Clark didn't live long enough to see the oil-sands industry flourish. When the Great Canadian Oil Sands plant opened in 1967 at a cost of \$235 million, producing 45,000 barrels of synthetic crude per day, it was the first of its kind in the world. It later became the Suncor plant.

It is surely no stretch to say this thriving Alberta industry is Karl Clark's legacy, but he would never have said it himself. In fact he used to remark primitive methods for extracting oil from sands had been around for centuries — he merely helped move the process along. As an editor of *New Trail* once commented, "Dr. Clark is the first person we have met who could give any sensible account of the oil sands tangle, but he is modest enough to say nothing of his own important contributions to research in that field." ■

A musical appetizer "à la Ukraine"

Eastern European art music featured at Shevchenko Lecture

By Vivian Zenari

When asked to characterize Ukrainian classical music, Virko Baley used the term "magic realism." Magic realism, said the University of Nevada music professor, is "a cultural reaction to a politically weak culture." If politically incapable of doing anything, one uses myths to act out the possibilities of power, he added.

Baley's intriguing comments were among many that arose Feb. 16, as part of this year's Shevchenko Lecture. Baley, a composer and former conductor of the Nevada Symphony, shared the Timms Centre stage with Edmonton Symphony Orchestra (ESO) conductor, Grzegorz Nowak, to discuss the state of Eastern European classical music before and after the fall of the Iron Curtain.

The event was aptly called "Zakuska: Concert Chat with Two Maestros," *zakuska* being Ukrainian for "appetizer." That's because the lecture was a prelude to the ESO's "Journey Through Ukraine" concert series which followed that week.

Throughout the 19th century, Ukrainian classical music suffered a "lacuna," or hiatus, said Baley, mainly because Ukraine was partitioned among its neighbors, Poland and Russia among them. Once Ukraine became part of the USSR in the 20th century, government cultural policy led to the founding of new orchestras and to competitions for composers. As Nowak pointed out, however, there was a political catch: "They had orchestras but they were controlled by Moscow."

This control, Baley said, caused composers to become "iconoclastic," to "work outside the mainstream and work in a very idiosyncratic way."

Composers relied on their individual artistry, not official cultural infrastructures. This move to the personal characterized much of 20th century classical music. As a result, during the Cold War "many more adventurous and new things were happening on that side of the Iron Curtain than out West," said Nowak.

Since the break-up of the USSR, Ukrainian music has remained personal, and although it has not dispensed with nationalism it has gravitated toward the universal. Today it is difficult to determine national styles, Nowak said. "Now music is individualistic, using all means available" to express a composer's intent. The conductors agreed contemporary music in Ukraine is typified by the work of Yuri Laniuk, who was in attendance at the lecture.

The ESO program provided an ideal foreground for the Shevchenko Lecture, said Canadian Institute for Ukrainian Studies (CIUS) director, Dr. Zenon Kohut. A research centre at the U of A, CIUS co-sponsors the annual lecture series with the Ukrainian Professional and Business Club of Edmonton. CIUS is "in every respect" community based, Kohut said, and the joint sponsorship is indicative of the institute's service to both the scholarly community and Edmonton's large Ukrainian population.



Maestros Grzegorz Nowak and Virko Baley, with U of A's Debra Cairns, centre.

In fact, Nowak said the concerts were "bait" to lure the many Edmontonians of Ukrainian descent into the Winspear Centre in the hopes of converting them into repeat attendees. All the pieces were by Ukrainian composers, including Laniuk's *Palimpsesty*, which had its world premiere at the Feb. 19 concert. Soprano Joanne Kolomyjec and the Ukrainian Music Society of Alberta massed choir added their voices to the regular symphony contingent.

Dr. Debra Cairns, associate professor of music at the U of A, acted as moderator for the informal session. The conductor of the I Coristi chamber choir and specialist in Renaissance choral music said being the moderator provided a "wonderful oppor-

tunity to get to know a country and music about which I knew very little."

She lauded the ability of the Polish-born Nowak and Ukrainian-born Baley to draw comparisons between Eastern and Western European music. Indeed, Baley described the ESO program's opening piece, the overture to Mykola Lysenko's opera *Taras Bulba*, as the "William Tell Overture" of Ukrainian repertoire.

Cairns said the talk demonstrated "music has evolved beyond politics." Nowak takes this sentiment one step further: "[You can] identify art with certain groups but in essence it belongs to all humanity."

Some "Ukrainian food" for thought... ■

1999

J. GORDIN KAPLAN AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH



The J. Gordin Kaplan Awards for Excellence in Research was established as the university's most prestigious research prize in 1982 by J. Gordin Kaplan, the first vice-president (research) at the University of Alberta. The award was renamed in Kaplan's honor in 1988. Two awards are presented annually for outstanding research in humanities, social sciences, law, education and fine arts, and sciences or engineering. Drs. McDaniel and Schindler will speak at the annual celebration reception on Tuesday, March 9 at 4 p.m. in the Timms Centre.



Susan McDaniel

Pioneering research lays foundation for public policy

By Sheila Soder

Fresh off the plane from an international conference in South Africa, Dr. Susan McDaniel is so jet-lagged she's not sure it all has sunk in. But the Kaplan award winner says: "It's really fun. I'm really excited about the whole thing."

McDaniel completed her PhD at the University of Alberta but had no plans to return until the university's persistence and the outstanding growth of the Department of Sociology lured her back. "Eventually, they said 'Well, why don't you come here for a year and we will see what happens?'" That was a decade ago.

Since then, McDaniel has become internationally recognized for her pioneering work in social and demographical issues, often with an emphasis on gender. She balks, however, at the idea her focus is only on women's issues. "My early interest was in the unexpected contradiction between individuals' behaviors and outcomes, and it still fascinates me. I have tried to infuse everything I do with some kind of gender aspect, but the intent of my research is this individual/structure thing."

Some of McDaniel's early research focused on fertility, but it was her inclusion of gender issues in her research that were revolutionary. "The ways women made or did not make decisions about childbearing had never fully been looked at. The entire perspective was seen through the eyes of the male researcher, not deliberately biased but also not fully

expanded to what it could be. It was not fully inclusive."

It was an early interest in mathematics, people's behaviors and a course in introductory demography for a student originally intent on studying engineering that led to McDaniel's new research frameworks. "I realized it was possible for me to apply this mathematical interest to something human," remembers McDaniel.

The professor takes enormous pride in her current work measuring the social impact of science and technology. Her research has given Canada the leading role in this area, and she has presented at the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), NATO and the Presidential Symposium on Science and Technology in Washington, D.C. In addition, McDaniel's research was instrumental in reshaping the discourse on family policy studies during the United Nations International Year of the Family (IYF) in 1994. She has also worked with Census Canada on marital status and unpaid work

Undergraduate Teaching Award in 1995. "There is a sort of synergy between [research and policy] that is much like the synergy between teaching and research. If you bring the main research questions and the latest research findings into the classroom, the conversation broadens and everyone benefits, including my conceptual frameworks and my research."

"She pushes you, but always in the right direction," says sociology PhD student, Teresa Abada. "She always pushes you to look at the broader picture and to investigate a different angle. She is extremely supportive of students and very encouraging."

"I really admire the way she is well informed about international issues," adds Kwame Bodau, another graduate student who has been under McDaniel's supervision for the past two years. "There are very few other professors interested in developing countries as she is." An international student studying hospitals in his native Ghana, Bodau says McDaniel "makes you feel at home," with personal touches such as cards to celebrate Christmas or the passing of an exam.

"The research, although it is not intended to be policy oriented, has been scooped up as policy relevant at the conceptual level. This also means that research has a life of its own," she says with a smile. "It grows up like a child and you can't really control it."

McDaniel is also a dedicated teacher, at both the graduate and undergraduate levels, and for this received a Faculty of Arts

be made. It was the contribution their research has made to understanding the issues of our country."

McDaniel agrees with the idea of research as a contribution. "It's more about a contribution than accomplishments. Research is rather like building a glass wall — it's not brick," she says. "It is permeable. You can see through it but the light is somewhat refracted. Each brick you produce is a new sort of insight, a clue if you like, to a big puzzle, and then someone else puts on another glass brick, and so what you are doing is contributing."

The Kaplan award, says McDaniel, "means we are celebrating one another's achievements. It is recognition on the home front." ■

- McDaniel was the first in Canada to study illegal abortion.
- Later research included fertility and family studies, and she is renowned for her insights in population aging.
- McDaniel, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, has published three books and another four are forthcoming, including an introduction to sociology textbook.

»quick»facts

SUSAN A. MCDANIEL & DAVID W. SCHINDLER

Diversity the key to top researcher's success

By Sheila Soder

Dogsleds are as important as test tubes for Dr. David Schindler, who is just as comfortable in a parka racing a pack as he is working on one of his many influential research projects.

"I professionally raise sled dogs," grins Schindler when asked what he does outside of the lab. He credits his children with the initial interest in the sport.

"We always had hunting dogs but they wanted a sled dog as a pet. We couldn't make up our minds on a pup so we bought two."

The rest, as they say, is history. Schindler says he made the children a sled, "and then they saw a race. I got talking to some of the pro drivers, and then started helping them out with their training. When one of them sold out, I bought some of his dogs." Schindler and his wife, Suzanne Bailey, currently train, breed and race 58 dogs.

"It was a family sport that kept the children out of mischief all through their teens," says Schindler. "With that amount of work per day there was not a lot of energy left to get into trouble!"

Schindler is quick to point out he has had a "long term interest" in all of the areas he has worked. These have included the effects of UV radiation and gas exchanges in lakes and streams, acid rain, food chains, phosphorus content in detergents, and radioactive elements and climate change on boreal ecosystems. He was involved in research on the Swan Hills Toxic Waste Treatment Centre spill, and participated in the federal Endangered Species Act Task Force and the expert ecology panel of the Banff Bow Valley Task Force. His research has also been described as critical to the success of the cross-border agreement to clean up the Great Lakes, as well as that of many smaller lakes within Canada.

tions (approximately 200 to date) have served as the foundation for environmental public policy changes in these countries.

"I try to pick things that I think are really exciting," explains Schindler, who is currently involved in five major ongoing projects in a number of ecological specialties. "I've tended to leap around a bit. Rather than specializing in one area, I have always been better off figuring out a strategic way to push the cutting edge," he says. "When I don't see any new niche, I go on to something else and then come back to it."

Schindler is also an ecologist. "We have always wanted to work in the mountains, so we accepted the University of Alberta's offer." Ecology runs in the family as both Schindler's daughters and his son work in the field and have married other ecologists. "We have eight ecologists under one roof at Christmas so you can imagine what dominates the conversation," says Schindler with a chuckle.

So, what does the Kaplan award mean to him? "The main thing is the encouragement and the support from the university." As he puts it, "There have been some topics on which I have been pretty active and outspoken," adding disagreements

"Schindler is tops in the world," says Dr. Dick Peter, dean of science. "We are very pleased to have the university recognize his work."

"We are delighted," agrees Dr. Susan Jensen, chair of biological sciences. "Schindler is internationally renowned and has received a lot of attention this past year. He has been a very distinguished researcher his entire time at the university."

"The [Kaplan] committee was unanimous in their decision," says Dr. William Graham, chair of the Faculty of Science's nominating committee. "It was a very compelling nomination."

Schindler came to the University of Alberta in 1989 with his wife, also an ecologist. "We have always wanted to work in the mountains, so we accepted the University of Alberta's offer." Ecology runs in the family as both Schindler's daughters and his son work in the field and have married other ecologists. "We have eight ecologists under one roof at Christmas so you can imagine what dominates the conversation," says Schindler with a chuckle.

And he's not going anywhere any time soon. "I am planning to stay here until they kick me out."

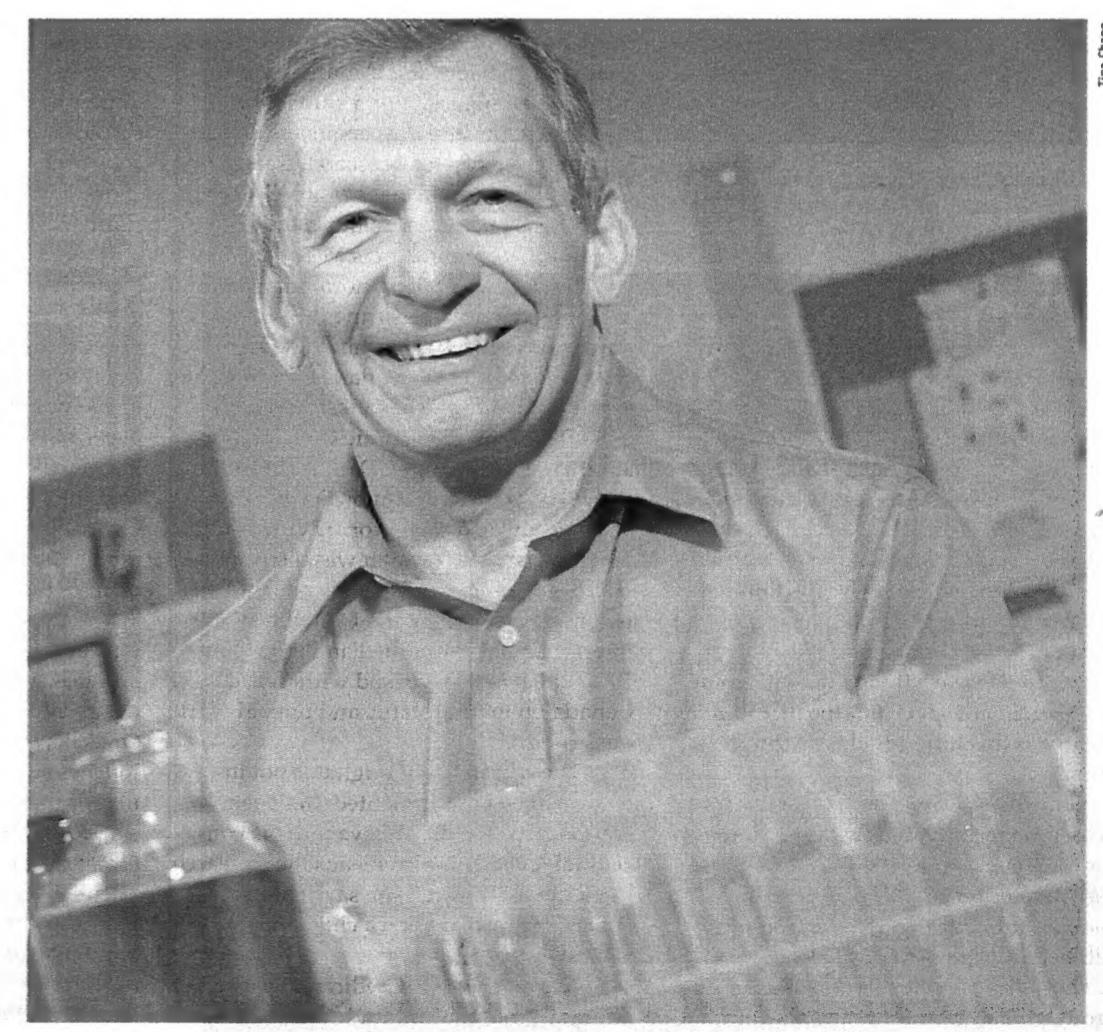
If being one of the most recent recipients of the university's top research awards is any indication, it's a good thing he and the dogs enjoy being near the mountains. ■

»quick»facts

with the premier of Alberta or the minister of the environment have been additional components of his work. "But I have had nothing but encouragement from everyone here. The Kaplan is an indication of the support of the university of me and my programs."

And he's not going anywhere any time soon. "I am planning to stay here until they kick me out."

If being one of the most recent recipients of the university's top research awards is any indication, it's a good thing he and the dogs enjoy being near the mountains. ■



David Schindler

I've tended to leap around a bit.
When I don't see any new
niche I go on to something else
and then come back to it.

— David Schindler, on the diversity of his research.

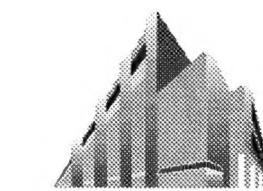
Research Revelations is growing

By Roger Armstrong

To the public at large, the University of Alberta can be a vast, confusing place. Where are taxpayer dollars going? What kind of research goes on at the U of A? Even researchers on campus might not know what their colleagues are doing in other disciplines.

One way of trying to bring these groups together and to increase understanding is Research Revelations. The annual event showcases U of A research and provides an opportunity for researchers to see what their colleagues are doing on campus. The aim is to foster collaborative work, says David Norwood, special assistant in the Office of the Vice-President (Research and External Affairs).

"Another objective is to better inform the public within the university, as well as outside, of the diversity and range of research activity that is ongoing at the University of Alberta," says Dr. Roger Smith, vice-president



RESEARCH'99 revelations

(research and external affairs). Although the posters and displays are technical in nature, part of the appeal of this event is the researchers themselves are there to answer questions.

Dr. Ann McDougall, professor in the Department of History and Classics, was involved in a display on Middle Eastern and African studies and thought the event was beneficial. "There seemed to be a fair number of people circulating and we got a number of

I was quite impressed
with some of the work
I saw on elementary
education.

— Ann McDougall

questions," says McDougall.

"I was quite impressed with some of the work I saw on elementary education because I have children," she says. McDougall was pleased to find research her colleagues were doing was so relevant to her life. As for contacts, she will be putting one of her graduate students in touch

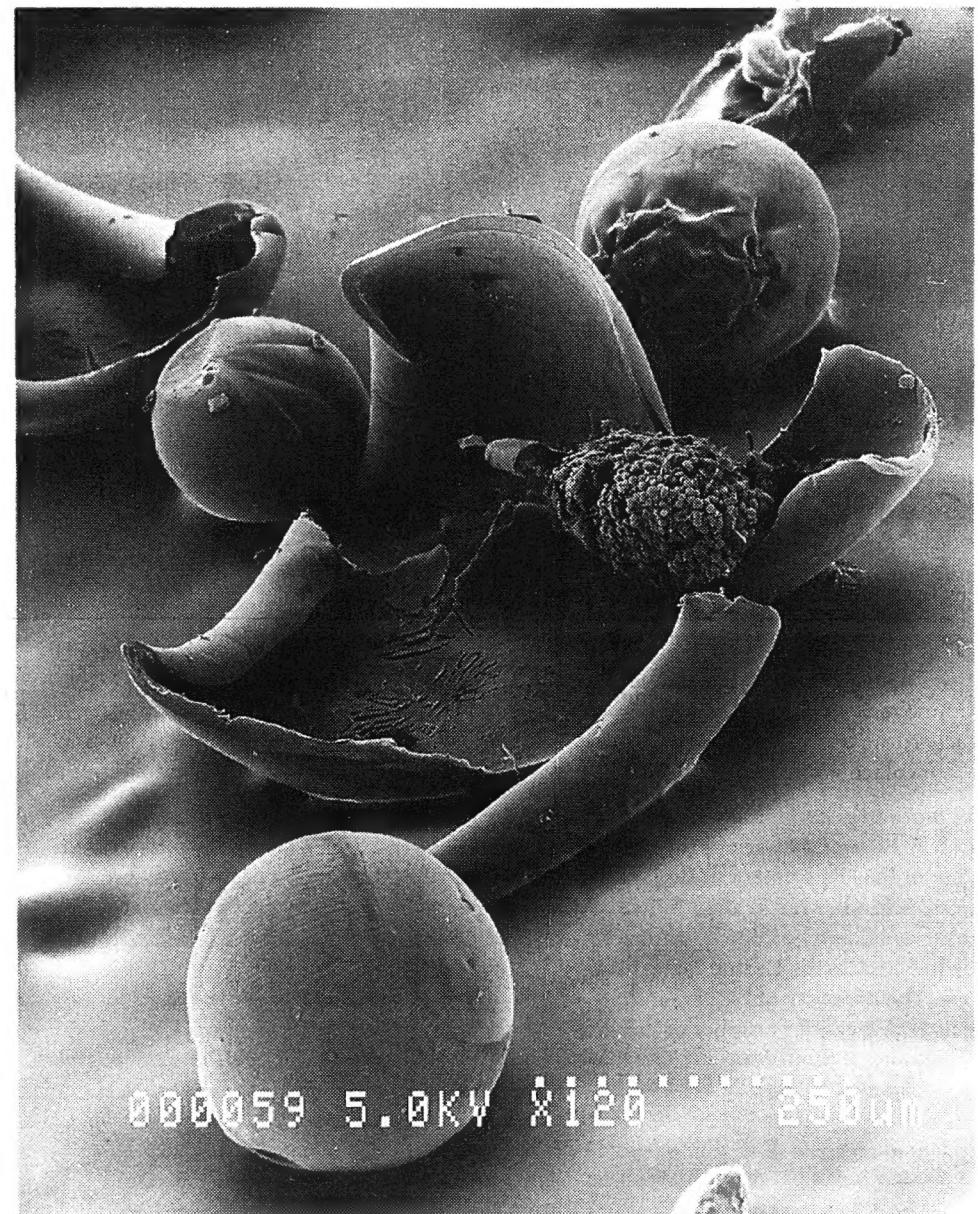
with a presenter from the Department of Comparative Literature, Religion and Film/Media Studies in hopes the two can benefit from each others' knowledge.

The sixth Research Revelations was held Feb. 6. This is the second year it has been open to the public and it was the biggest so far with more than 225 displays and almost 600 researchers. There were participants from as far away as Germany, Sweden, and the U.S. as well as from across Canada.

This is the first year the event was held in the Butterdome to accommodate the increasing number of participants. Brad Hestbak, associate director (communications and marketing), Technical Resource Group says, "I think we had our most successful Research Revelations ever but the Butterdome opened up a whole bunch of more opportunities and we are conscious that we did not take full advantage of those opportunities this year." Hestbak and the rest of the organizing committee are looking at ways to make next year's event even better. ■



M51, the Whirlpool Galaxy. This nearby spiral galaxy contains at least 100 billion stars and is currently interacting with a smaller galaxy near it. It's about 13 million light years away. Imaged at the Devon Telescope.



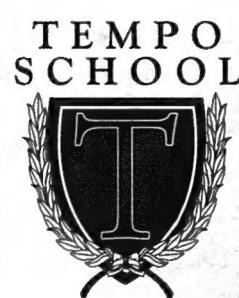
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Conference scrutinizes management of Canada's boreal forests

European experts urge Canada to heed their lessons

By Barbara Every

Scientists from around the world met recently for a four-day conference in Edmonton to discuss research on preserving boreal forest ecology and improving management strategies. A diverse group of more than 560 university researchers, graduate students, aborigines, forest industry personnel, and government representatives attended the event, the second conference hosted by the Sustainable Forest Management Network (SFMN) since its inception at the University of Alberta in 1995.

Communications coordinator Louise McEachern notes the SFMN has grown in four years "from a local level involving four universities and eight researchers to a national level with 25 universities and more than 100 researchers across Canada, to an international level."

The pressure is on for the vast boreal forests stretching across northern Canada, Europe and Asia to produce wood and processed wood products for our economic benefit. In Canada, about two million people work in direct forestry and related manufacturing jobs in a country that's a world leader in exporting pulp, newsprint and lumber.

But forests contribute much more than jobs and income: they clean the air, produce oxygen, prevent soil erosion, regulate climate, shelter plants and animals, and provide leisure areas. Forests have for centuries sustained us economically, environ-

Speakers urged

Canadian participants to be aware of how much boreal forest is left here and to learn from the European experience.

mentally and socially. Now, Canada's forest trade is under pressure to find ways to sustain or restore the health of our forests for future generations.

Guest speakers from Sweden and Finland

reinforced the value of sharing information internationally when they spoke about the loss of original boreal forest in their own countries. They urged Canadian participants to be aware of how much boreal forest is left here and to learn from the European experience, where they now rely heavily on silviculture (harvesting and growing of tree crops).

Other speakers included Dr. Stan Nilsson from Austria, who discussed the Russian forest sector, and Ty Lund, the Alberta Minister of Environmental Protection. Lund noted that Canada was one of the first countries to call for an internationally binding agreement on forests. He acknowledged the responsibility of "legislators, educators, researchers and those who work in the forest industry" to consider the commercial, cultural, ecological and community values of forests. Lund also

emphasized the importance of research in informing the government.

As a forum for research, the conference provoked "lots of good discussion among the participants," says program leader Dr. Vic Adamowicz. The SFMN concentrates on "the best ways to operate on a forestry land base, and the conference was a good opportunity to exchange ideas." Experts examined the ecological, social, economic and engineering research on the world's boreal forests. Topics included the response of wildlife to changes in the landscape, First Nations forest management, impacts of fire and harvesting on lake-water quality, and wastewater treatment technology, among others.

One public concern expressed throughout the conference was with "the multiple uses of the landscape by forestry, oil and gas companies, tourism, and various other industries," says Adamowicz. Participants felt "there's really no coordinated way of assessing these things because they're falling under different jurisdictions at times, or certainly under different industries." He adds that the science being done by the SFMN "contributes directly or indirectly to the bigger picture" of what to do about various industrial activities and the boreal ecosystem.



Alberta's Environment Minister Ty Lund and Dr. Roger Smith, vice-president (research and external affairs), spoke at the SFMN conference.

McEachern echoes the importance of participation by all groups—government, Aboriginal peoples, communities—who have an interest in preserving the future of the boreal forest. "One of our goals was to show that it's not just up to researchers or government; communities have to get involved, too." People left with a sense that one person's actions "can make a difference, even if they start on a small-scale, local level and grow from there." ■

Getting to the root of campus discontent

By Geoff McMaster

Campus employees are feeling the stress of restructuring and are asking for a number of changes to ease the pressure, according to a report released by the Workplace Wellness Initiative.

Over the past year, a cross section of the university's work force—72 participants in nine focus groups representing both academic and non-academic staff—were asked to speak frankly about the quality of their working lives. According

There is an onus on us, and on senior management, to deliver.

—Wanda Wetterberg

Steering committee chair Wanda Wetterberg says while there were few surprises, the inquiry "reinforced concerns we were hearing from staff. Rebuilding community would have to be the top priority, and I think that emanates from the years and years of cuts to the university's budget. We have to start reinvesting in employees now."

Participants defined a healthy work environment as safe, motivating, friendly and understanding. It's also a place where "one has the ability to risk and freely express opinions" and where one feels respected, valued and encouraged. Many referred to concepts such as balance, broadness, synergy and comprehensiveness when describing the meaning of workplace wellness.

Overall, says Wetterberg, there was a surprising degree of consistency in the responses, "regardless of whether you're a dean or a chair or someone who maintains our buildings," concerning three key issues:

- Improving communication and rebuilding community. The report points

out many participants expressed "a loss of opportunity to connect with others in their own area and across campus." Some said the distinction between academic and non-academic staff was "divisive" and work was needed to instill "more unifying feelings." Also high on the list was the need for greater respect and recognition of all staff for their achievements and contributions to campus life. Two groups not adequately recognized, the report states, are support staff and "emeriti" who have made long-standing contributions.

- Better management. There is "a lot of work to do, with people who are in leadership and management positions and in making sure they have the right skill sets," says Wetterberg. Focus group participants stressed the need for improved interpersonal skills in their leaders, as well as flexibility and the ability to create a positive and supportive atmosphere. The groups also expressed a desire for more effective organization of workloads, which many identified as one of the "biggest issues on campus."
- Improving environment/safety. Besides expecting to work in a healthy, safe, and ergonomically appropriate environment, campus staff say they'd like a greater degree of control over their individual work spaces.

Wetterberg says the report's recommendations will be forwarded to Vice-Presidents Doug Owram (academic) and Glenn Harris (finance) for consideration and action.

"There is an onus on us, and on senior management, to deliver," says Wetterberg, "and a lot of what we're proposing is going to take a number of years to come to fruition. You're talking about organizational change here, and that's a very lengthy process. I think people understand that, but to do nothing is unacceptable." ■

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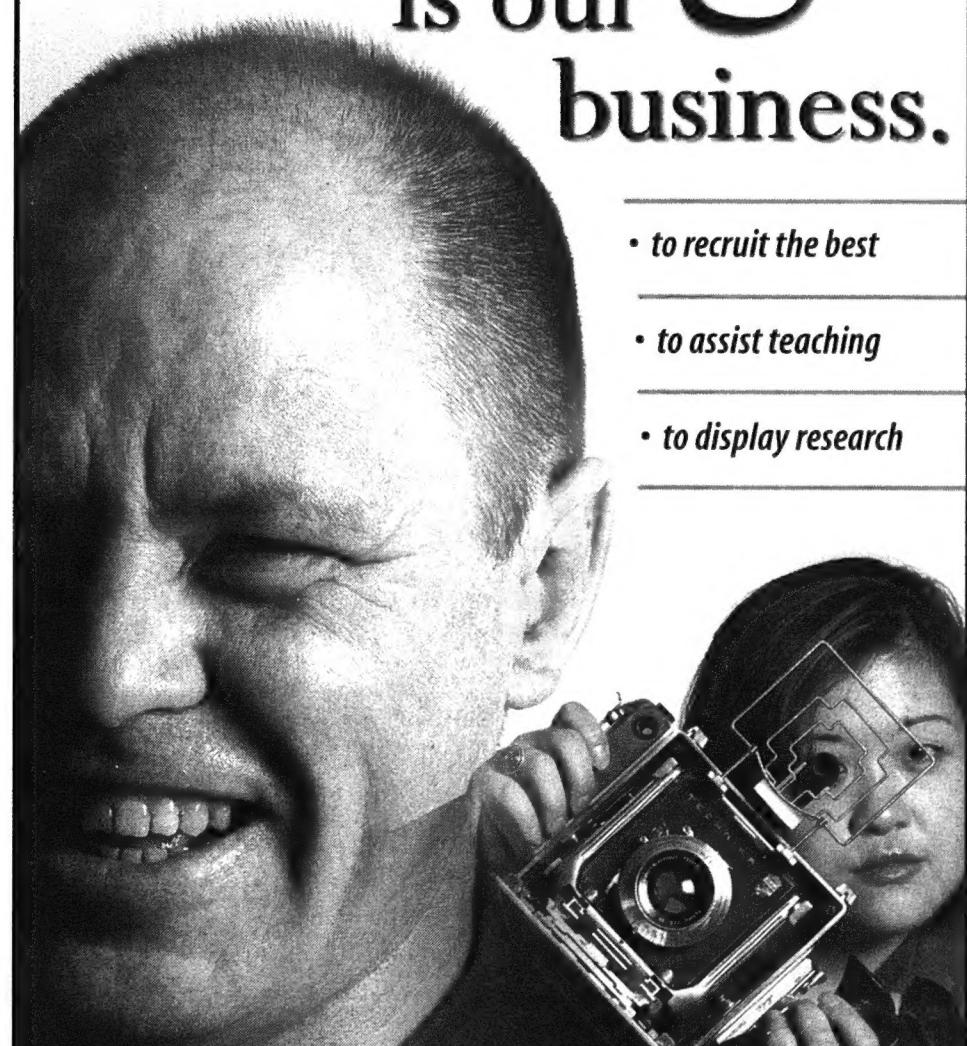


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ACCOUNTING AND MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS

March 5, 2 pm

Jinhan Pae, University of British Columbia, "Earnings Management and the Information Content of Earnings Announcements." B-05 Business Building. Copies of the paper can be picked up from the Department of Accounting and Information Systems office, Room 3-20L.

ALBERTA HERITAGE FOUNDATION FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

March 8, 10 am

Zhixiang Wang, Assistant Professor, Northeastern Ontario Regional Cancer Centre, Department of Tumor Biology, University of Ottawa, "The Regulation of Growth Factor Receptor-Mediated Signal Transduction and Endocytosis. Presented by Cell Biology. 5-10 Medical Sciences Building.

March 15, 10 am

Philip Wong, Assistant Professor, Department of Pathology, The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, "Copper Chaperone for SOD1(CCS) and Molecular Mechanisms of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis." Presented by Cell Biology. 5-10 Medical Sciences Building.

March 12, 7 pm

Robert Wharton, Jr, Desert Research Institute, University of Nevada, "Life on Ice: Antarctica and Mars." 3-27 Earth Sciences Building.

ANTHROPOLOGY

March 11, 5 pm

Frucht Memorial Lecture Series. Robert L Bettinger, University of California, Davis, "Prehistoric North China on the Eve of Agriculture."

March 12, 3:30 pm

Panel Discussion: Robert L Bettinger, University of California, Davis; David Anderson, University of Alberta; Pamela Willoughby, University of Alberta, "The Concept of Evolution in Hunter-Gatherer Research." Location TBA — contact the Department of Anthropology at 492-3879 for further details.

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Department of Biological Sciences

February 26, 2:30 pm (refreshments available at 2:15 pm)

George Owttrim, "Cool and Illuminating RNA Helicases." V-121 Physics V-Wing.

March 12, 2:30 pm (refreshments available at 2:15 pm)

Joe Dulka, "Steroid-Induced Plasticity in Brain and Behavior in Weakly Electric Fish." V-121 Physics V-Wing.

Ecology Seminar Series (part of the Biology 631 series)

February 26, noon

Maarten J. Vonhof, "Roosting Habitat Requirements and Population Genetics of Forest-dwelling Bats." G-116 Biological Sciences Centre.

March 5, noon

Kevin Devito, "The Potential for Impact of Logging on Water Quality and Quantity of Western Boreal Lakes Following Tree Harvest: Developing Adaptive Buffer Width Management Strategies." G-116 Biological Sciences Centre.

March 12, noon

Chris Buddle, "A Complex Web: Harvesting, Wildfires, and Spider Succession in the Boreal Forests of Alberta." G-116 Biological Sciences Centre.

Molecular Biology and Genetics Research Group (part of the Genetics 605 series)

March 2, 3:30 pm

Elizabeth Goodwin, "Post-transcriptional Control of Sex Determination in C. elegans." G-116 Biological Sciences Centre.

March 5, 3:30 pm

York Marahrens, "X-inactivation in Mice." G-116 Biological Sciences Centre.

March 12, 3:30 pm

Gabrielle Boulianne, "The Role of Presenilin in the Notch Signalling Pathway." Supported by AHFMR. G-116 Biological Sciences Centre.

Physiology and Cell Developmental Biology Seminar Series (part of the Biology 642 series)

March 3, noon

Kevin Kane, "Regulation of Natural Killer Cells by Major Histocompatibility Complex Molecules." G-114 Biological Sciences Centre.

March 10, noon

James Lin, "Wound Healing in a Jellyfish Striated Muscle Sheet." G-114 Biological Sciences Centre.

Thesis Seminars

March 1, 3:30 pm

David Hansen, "The Nematode Sex Determining Protein, FEM-2, is a Rapidly Evolving Protein Phosphatase." G-217 Biological Sciences Centre.

March 4, 11:30 am

Jeanette E Evans, "Dissolved Phosphorus Dynamics in Shallow Subsurface Waters in Cut and Uncut Subcatchments of a Lake on the Boreal Plain." M-141 Biological Sciences Centre.

CHEMICAL AND MATERIALS ENGINEERING

March 4, 3:30 pm

Faical Larachi, Department of Chemical Engineering, Laval University, Sainte-Foy, Quebec, "Gas-Liquid Packed and Ebullated-Bed Reactors: Making Order Out of Chaos." 345 Chemical & Materials Engineering Building. Website: <http://www.ualberta.ca/chemeng> (NEWS & EVENTS)

CHEMISTRY

March 8, 11 am

Jeffrey Keillor, Department of Chemistry, University of Montreal, "Mechanistic Investigations of gamma-Glutamyl Transferases." V-107 Physics Wing.

EARTH AND ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCES

February 26, 3 pm

Jeffrey W. Hedenquist, Consultant, Ottawa, "The Porphyry to Epithermal Continuum: Evidence from Volcanoes and Ore Deposits." Joint talk with Society of Economic Geologists — Student Chapter. Funded by SEG and PS Warren. 3-36 Tory Building.

March 4, 7 pm

Robert Wharton, Jr, Desert Research Institute, University of Nevada, "Life on Ice: Antarctica and Mars." 3-27 Earth Sciences Building.

March 5, 3:30 pm

Dr Wharton, Jr, "Long Term Change in Antarctic Cold Desert Ecosystems." 3-36 Tory Building.

ENTOMOLOGY

March 11, 4 pm

Andrea Durand, "You Are What You Eat: Implications for Forest Tent Caterpillar Feeding on Previously Damaged Trembling Aspen Trees." TBW-1 Tory Breezeway.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH AND STUDIES CENTRE

March 3, 4:30 pm

Karen Smoyer, "The Human Health Implications of Climate Change and Variability." Alumni Room, Students' Union Building.

HOPE FOUNDATION

March 2, 7 pm

Karen Massey, "Hope in Counseling." Hope House, 11032 — 89 Avenue.

HUMAN ECOLOGY

March 11, noon

Elizabeth Richards, "Aquatextiles: The Use of Polypropylene Textiles to Enhance Filtration in Water Treatment." Interdisciplinary research in textile science and environmental engineering. 3-05 Human Ecology Building (formerly Printing Services).

INTERDISCIPLINARITY AND CULTURAL STUDIES: METHODS, EXPLORATIONS, TRANSLATIONS

March 3, 2 pm

Jane Samson, "A Historian Among Post-Colonial Theorists." 4-29 Humanities Centre.

LEMIEUX LECTURE ON BIOTECHNOLOGY

March 11, 4 pm

Gregory Winter, Cambridge Centre for Protein Engineering in England, "Synthetic Human Antibodies for Therapy." B-01 Tory Lecture Theatre.

Dr. Gregory Winter is Joint Head of the Division of Protein and Nucleic Acid Chemistry at the Medical Research Council, Laboratory for Molecular Biology and Deputy Director of the Cambridge Centre for Protein Engineering in England. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society and was the 1995 recipient of the King Faisal International Prize in Medicine.

ONCOLOGY

March 11, noon

Joseph Slupsky, Senior Post-Doctoral Research Fellow, Institut für medizinische Strahlenkunde und Zellforschung, Universität Würzburg, Germany, "Platelet-expressed CD40L Plays a Role in the Induction of Inflammation and Angiogenesis." Michael Hutchinson Room, 2279 Cross Cancer Institute.

PHILOSOPHY

February 26, 3:30 pm

Calvin Normore, Department of Philosophy, University of California, Los Angeles, "What Was Contingency." 4-29 Humanities Centre.

March 1, 3:30 pm

Marina Oshana, Department of Philosophy, Bowling Green State University, "The Autonomy Boymean." L-2 Humanities Centre.

March 2, 3:30 pm

David Copp, Department of Philosophy, Bowling Green State University, "Rationality and Autonomy." L-2 Humanities Centre.

March 4, 3:30 pm

Bernard Linsky, "Principia Mathematica Revisited." L-2 Humanities Centre.

PHYSICS

February 26, 3:15 pm

A B McDonald, Queen's University, Kingston, "The Sudbury Neutrino Observatory." V-129 Physics Building.

PHYSIOLOGY

February 26, 3:30 pm

Carlos Fernandez-Patron, "A New Role for Matrix Metaloproteinases in Vascular Function." 207 Heritage Medical Research Centre.

POLITICAL SCIENCE

February 26, 3 pm

John Saul, Department of Political Science, York University, "Africans and Africanists: Globalization, Socialism and Political Science Fiction." 10-4 Tory Building.

March 5, 3 pm

David Schneiderman, "Investment Rules: The New Constitutionalism." 10-4 Tory Building.

March 5, 6 pm (cocktails), 7 pm (dinner)

Peter Meekison, "Looking Forward, Looking Back: Canada in the 21st Century." Tickets: \$20, call Sharon Moroschan, 492-3429. Banquet Room, Lister Hall.

PSYCHOLOGY

February 26, 1 pm

Thirteenth Annual Joseph R Royce Research Conference. Jan M Morse, "Qualitative Methods: The State of the Art." P-121 Biological Sciences Centre.

PUBLIC HEALTH SCIENCES

March 3, noon

Douglas Wilson, "The Provincial Health Council of Alberta: A Three Year Perspective." Classroom D, 2F1.04 Mackenzie Health Sciences Centre.

RENEWABLE RESOURCES

March 4, 12:30 pm

Clara Qualizza, Syncrude Canada Limited, Fort McMurray, and Len Leskiw, Can-Ag Enterprises Ltd., "The Future of Soil Assessments and Evaluation of

Land Capabilities in the Oil Sands Region." 2-36 Earth Sciences Building.

March 11, 12:30 pm

Don Scott, "The Evolution of Oil Sands Tailings as an Engineered Deposit." 2-36 Earth Sciences Building.

UNIVERSITY TEACHING SERVICES

March 2, 2 pm

David Kahane, Kent Rondeau, Laura Shanner, "Tenure and Promotion: Preparing a Teaching Dossier." 281 CAB.

March 3, 3 pm

Sonja Arntzen and Jim Corrigan, "Print Study Centre: An Interdisciplinary Teaching Resource." 3-78 Fine Arts Building (Print Study Centre).

March 4, 2 pm

Deborah James and Theresa Murzyn, "Computer-Conferencing: Marking 'Connexions'." 281 CAB.

March 8, 3 pm

Candide Sloboda, "Lecturing Creatively." 281 CAB.

March 10, 3 pm

David Percy, "Easing Pressure Without Sacrificing Standards." 281 CAB.

March 11, 2 pm

Allison Fallowfield, "Custom Printed Course Materials." 281 CAB.

WOMEN'S STUDIES/RELIGIOUS STUDIES

March 5, 10 am

David Forsee, Canadian author of *Can You Listen to a Woman, A Man's Journey to the Heart* will speak on his experiences as a man of having a female spiritual teacher, Swami Sivananda Radha. This special presentation is part of Professor Dold's Women's Studies/Religious Studies course on "Feminine Images of the Divine." Supported by the Employment Equity Discretionary Fund. B-76 Tory Building (basement).

events

EXHIBITIONS

FAB GALLERY

Until March 7

"The Stolen Child"—this exhibition is the final visual presentation for the degree of Master of Fine Arts in Painting — Ruby J. Mah, MFA Painting. Gallery hours: Tuesday to Friday, 10 am to 5 pm; Sunday, 2 pm to 5 pm; Monday, Saturday, holidays, closed. Information: 492-2081. 1-1 Fine Arts Building.

MUSIC

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

February 26, 8 pm

Music at Convocation Hall Series. An evening of music by Frédéric Chopin featuring pianist Marek Jablonski. Admission: \$10/adult, \$5/student/senior. Convocation Hall, Arts Building.

February 27, 8 pm

Guest Artist Recital: Alma Coefman, flute, with William Street, saxophone, and Roger Admiral, piano. Admission: \$10/adult, \$5/student/senior. Convocation Hall.

FUNDRAISER

A CELEBRATION OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

In support of the University of Alberta Sexual Assault Centre and The 4 Corners Society.

March 6, 9 pm

"Women in Music and Art" at the Sidetrack Cafe, featuring MAUD and guests, and an Art show and sale.

March 7, 8 am to noon

The 1st Annual International Women's Day Walk/Run, Hawrelak Park. Brochures/Pledge Forms available from The Running Room and various other locations throughout Edmonton.

March 8, 7 pm

"Women with a Voice", a Speakers' Forum at the Ramada Inn and Conference Centre. Tickets at the door (\$8/\$4 students, low income). A silent auction will also be featured.

Women and men are invited to participate in all events. Please contact Christie at 916-5101 if you require further information or wish to offer support.

CONFERENCE

15TH ANNUAL STUDENT ADVISERS CONFERENCE

March 8

"Sowing the Seeds of Success"—this conference serves to highlight student advising issues, and is an excellent forum for the gathering of information and discussion of a wide array of topics related to student advising. Those interested in presenting papers, topics or sessions relevant to student affairs, please contact John Freeman, 492-1991 or john.freeman@su.ualberta.ca. For those interested in attending the

conference, please contact Lydia Lanman, 492-4689 or lydia.lanman@u.ualberta.ca.

CAREER FORUMS

Week of March 8 and 15

CaPS is hosting the following Career Forums: Environmental & Conservation Sciences; Film & Television; Law; Recreation; and Starting Your Own Business. Call CaPS at 492-4291 or visit the CaPS Homepage @ <http://www.ualberta.ca/caps>.

EMPLOYMENT FORUM FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

March 10, 4 to 6 pm

There is no charge but anyone interested in attending is asked to pre-register at CaPS. Register in person @ 2-100 SUB, by phone @ 492-4291 or by e-mail to joan.schibbelbein@ualberta.ca. Room 4-02 Students' Union Building

BUSINESS

March 17, 8:15 am to 4:30 pm

The Faculty of Business, University of Alberta, in collaboration with a number of partnering agencies, is pleased to announce a one-day symposium, "Technology commercialization, collaboration, and financing the entrepreneurial venture." \$100 per person (student rate \$50). Deadline for registrations: March 10, 1999. Refreshments and a light lunch will be provided. Salon Level, Shaw Conference Centre. For information on this event contact Dr. Lloyd Steier, 492-5176 or lsteier@ualberta.ca. Website: <http://www.bus.ualberta.ca/tech-com/>.

STANDARD FIRST AID/HEARTSAVER COURSES

April and October

The Office of Environmental Health and Safety has arranged for Standard First Aid/Heartsaver courses to be held on campus once again this year. Training is comprised of two full-day sessions (8 am to 4 pm) with morning, lunch and afternoon breaks. The cost is \$80 per person. The first course will be held in early April and the last at the end of October. Registration is limited due to classroom size. For further information and registration forms please call Cindy Ferris, 492-1810 or cindy.ferris@ualberta.ca.

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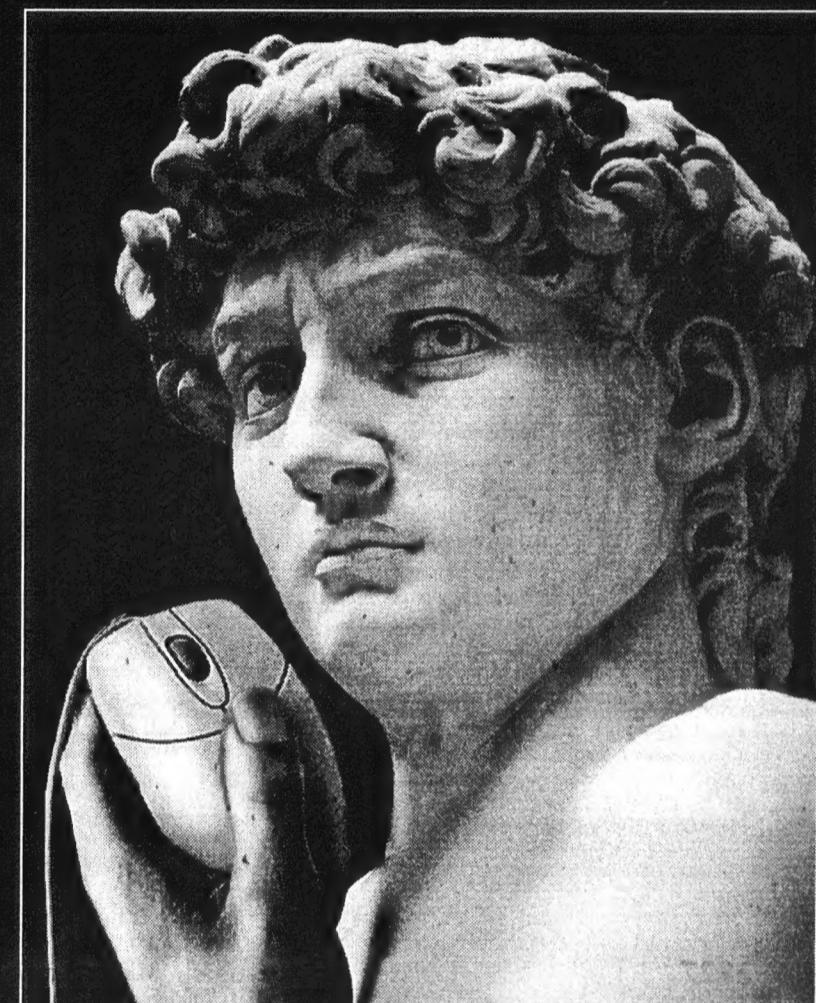
April 9 and 10

Organized by Museums Alberta (Alberta's Museums Association) in partnership with the U of A's Institute for Professional Development — this Symposium aims to summarize participants input toward a shared vision of how museums can contribute to the learning communities they serve, including that of their own staff and organizations. Registration deadline: March 19, 1999. For information please contact Tali Laurenson, Learning Coordinator at Museums Alberta, (780) 424-2657 ext. 226, fax (780) 425-1679, tali.laurenson@museumsalberta.ab.ca.



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These facilities have contracted with the University of Alberta to provide accommodations at the rates indicated. Each facility has unique features and offers something to suit everyone's taste.

To accommodate special guests to the University, reservations can be made using the Hotel Authorization Program (HAP) form which allows post-payment by the hosting department.

These rates are per night and are exclusive of convention conference rates which are established by conference/convention organizers. Rates valid to December 31, 1999 unless otherwise noted, taxes not included.



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positions

The University of Alberta is committed to the principle of equity in employment. As an employer we welcome diversity in the workplace and encourage applications from all qualified women and men, including Aboriginal peoples, persons with disabilities, and members of visible minorities. In accordance with Canadian Immigration requirements, preference will be given to Canadian citizens and permanent residents.

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA BOOKSTORES

Applications are invited for the position of Associate Director of the University of Alberta Bookstores. The University of Alberta Bookstores are a large-sized, uniquely comprehensive unit with a solid reputation in serving students, faculties and campus departments.

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Reporting to the director of the University of Alberta Bookstores and associate vice-president of learning systems will be a person who is organized, a highly motivated self-starter, demonstrates leadership skills, has a record of peer-evaluated achievement in her/his area of specialization, as well as the disposition to be responsive to opinions of students, faculty members, and demonstrated capacity to interact positively with specialists in disciplines other than her/his own. Ideal candidates will have a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution with educational training in basic finance, accounting, marketing, advertising and personnel management preferred and five years of general management experience in a college store environment or an equivalent amount of training in a similar area of retailing.

Letters of application should include a full curriculum vitae or resume, and the names and contact information for references. Applications should be submitted to the address below by March 20, 1999.

Director's Office
University of Alberta Bookstores
Student's Union Building
Edmonton, Alberta
Canada T6G 2J7
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ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

The University of Alberta Development Office is responsible for managing the fourth largest fund-raising campaign launched by a post-secondary educational institution in Canadian history. The Development Office has established a solid team environment where individuals are encouraged to be innovative, creative, and proud of their work, and has established an international reputation as a leading post-secondary development operation. A new position has recently been created to augment this team.

While serving as the Chief Financial Officer for all philanthropic contributions made to the development office, the successful candidate will provide qualitative management of the data that is recorded and maintained in the alumni/donor database. Utilizing comprehensive knowledge and understanding of accounting principles, policies and strategies along with an equivalent knowledge of management information systems, the successful candidate will be responsible for the development and implementation of procedures related to gift acceptance, gift accounting and processing and recording of philanthropic gifts.

This position is a key and integral member of the development office senior management team, and is responsible for managing three departments (MIS, Accounting, and Prospect Research) and their 14 staff positions. A university degree is required. A professional designation (CMA, CGA, CA) and related experience is an asset.

This position is a full-time position, and offers a competitive salary and benefits (currently under review). Please send in confidence a resume and letter explaining your interest in this position to:

EH Guy Mallabone
Director of Development
Development Office
University of Alberta
4th Floor Athabasca Hall
Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2E8

Review of applications will begin on Monday, March 22, 1999 and will continue until the position is filled.

We wish to thank all participants in advance, however, only those candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONAL OFFICER

ENVELOPE FUNDING SPECIALIST FINANCIAL SERVICES

This position is a newly created Administrative Professional Officer position that has a direct reporting line to the director, financial services. Responsibilities will include all aspects of post-award administration associated with the following envelope funding initiatives: Canada Foundation for Innovation, Infrastructure Renewal, Intellectual Infrastructure Partnership Program, Knowledge Network, Learning Enhancement, and Research Excellence. The establishment and maintenance of a reporting framework as well as the monitoring and coordination of financial activity will be key aspects. The responsibilities will require extensive work and cooperation with the following offices: Research Grants Office, Industry Liaison Office, Vice-President (Research & External Affairs), Associate Vice-President (Learning Support Systems), Associate Vice-President (Operations & Physical Resources), Alberta Advanced Education and Career Development, and the Canada Foundation for Innovation. The successful candidate must have superior organization skills, an ability to work independently, excellent communication skills, and a demonstrated knowledge of both the university's policies and procedures and those of our major external research sponsors. Experience in an accounting role at the university would be desirable but not essential.

In addition to the above responsibilities, the successful candidate must possess excellent project management skills, be able to work effectively with researchers and other senior university faculty and officials, and demonstrate an ability to arrive at innovative solutions and resolutions in situations where rules and regulations continue to be defined. We are also seeking a candidate who will be proactive when dealing with government and other granting agencies on policy related issues, so as to best position the university to get the fullest possible benefit from each of the envelope funding initiatives.

Note: This position was previously advertised in Folio on Dec. 11, 1998, but the scope of responsibilities was more narrowly defined at that time. All applicants who responded to the initial advertisement will be considered as candidates for the position as redefined and expanded in scope, and therefore those persons need not submit a follow up application.

Salary: To be determined
Applications should be forwarded by March 5, 1999 to:

Martin Coutts
Director, Financial Services
3rd Floor Administration Building
University of Alberta
Edmonton, AB T6G 2M7

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ACCOMMODATIONS WANTED

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notices

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RETIREMENT CELEBRATION FOR TED GERMAINE

Ted Germaine, surgical supervisor at the Surgical Medical Research Institute, is retiring after 43 years of service to the University of Alberta. To wish him farewell, a reception will be held on Tuesday, March 30, 1999, 1:30 - 4:00 pm, SMRI Conference Room, 1064 Dentistry/Pharmacy Centre, University of Alberta.

If you wish to contribute towards a gift or have anecdotes you would like to share, please contact Rosemarie Henley, 1074 Dentistry/Pharmacy Building (rhenley@ualberta.ca), or phone 492-3386. If you are able to attend, please RSVP to Rosemarie by March 15, 1999.

LIBRARY BOOK SALE

The University of Alberta Library is having a book sale March 24-25, 1999 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., lower floor in the Cameron Library. About 8,000 books will be up for sale, covering the gamut from literature, education, science, history and everything else in between. Hardcovers - \$1, paperbacks - 50 cents. Proceeds will help purchase new books for U of A libraries.

THE PROFESSIONAL INSTITUTE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE OF CANADA

The Professional Institute of the Public Service of Canada invites submissions from the U of A for the institute's 1999 Gold Medal Award, to be presented during National Public Service Week in June. To be eligible, nominees must be Canadian citizens who are scientific, professional or technical employees of federal, provincial, territorial, municipal, regional, or aboriginal government services of Canada. They must be individuals who have made a significant contribution in either a field of pure or applied science or a field outside pure or applied science. The candidate must have performed the work during his or her tenure in the public service. Please note all nominations are confidential and must reach the institute by 5 p.m. on April 15, 1999.

For further information:

The Professional Institute of the Public Service of Canada, 53 prom. Auriga Dr., Nepean, Ontario, K2E 8C3, phone (613) 228-6310 or 1-800-267-0446, fax (613) 228-9048 or 1-800-465-7477, PIPSCNET (613) 228-1666, or view www.pipsc.ca/

laurels

DELTA CHI FRATERNITY'S OUTSTANDING PROFESSORS

Delta Chi Fraternity members have selected Drs. Ian Urquhart (political science), Chris Cheeseman (medicine), Ed Blackburn (Faculté Saint-Jean), Minal Dasgupta (science), Erhan Erkut (business) and Professor Ivan Ivankovich (business law) outstanding professors at its inaugural Teacher Excellence Appreciation evening, Feb. 23.

The professors were awarded not only for their dedication to in-class instruction but also for their commitment to professional development among their students. Fraternity members were invited to nominate professors who have had a profound impact on students and the university campus as a whole. The appreciation event, organized by Delta Chi Fraternity, the University of Alberta's largest men's social fraternity, is meant to recognize and increase awareness about dedication to university instruction.

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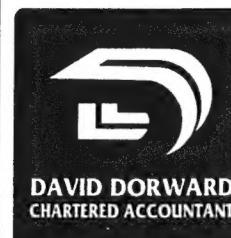
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Reaching out with Canadian care

By Geoff McMaster

In a Bangkok laboratory, a lone powered wheelchair collects dust, serving as a nagging symbol of neglect for Thailand's disabled. It's the only such chair in the country of 60 million, sitting unused because of insurmountable obstacles in bringing health technology to an ailing marketplace.

There are also no more than 30 speech pathologists to serve the entire population, compared to Canada's 8,000 for a population of 30 million. Thailand obviously has a long way to go to make life easier for the disabled, but despite the odds, the country's leaders have made huge strides in recent years. In 1991, the government passed a law declaring the rights and services to which the disabled are entitled — something even Canada doesn't yet have.

Last month Dr. Albert Cook, U of A dean of rehabilitation medicine, accompanied a Canadian delegation invited by the Thai government to advise them on giving the new law some teeth. During a two-week tour of hospitals and schools in Bangkok and Chiangmai, Cook discovered Thailand's approach to what is called "assistive technologies" is a study in contrasts.

"In electronic-based and computer-based technologies, they're very advanced," he says, "especially in high-level computational linguistics involving speech recognition and synthesis. Those are really challenging problems because of the nature of the Thai language — being tonal — and because of its structure."

Some of the software Thai designers are producing for those who can't speak, or for those who can't use a keyboard and mouse usually because of severe spinal cord injury, rivals the best North America has to offer.



But when it comes to addressing visible, physical disability — as opposed to those of a sensory or intellectual nature — the country's assistive technology lags painfully behind much of the developed world, says Cook. And the notion of wheelchair accessibility is virtually nonexistent.

"In North America physical disabilities have been at the forefront. Part of it is cultural. There's still a certain amount of shame associated with having a child with a disability. The problem is

being addressed with very young children and their parents, but it's still an issue for older individuals with, for example, cerebral palsy. They tend to be hidden a bit."

"Part of it is cultural. There's still a certain amount of shame associated with having a child with a disability."

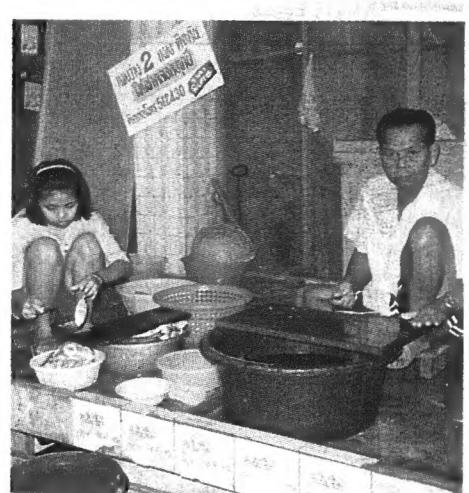
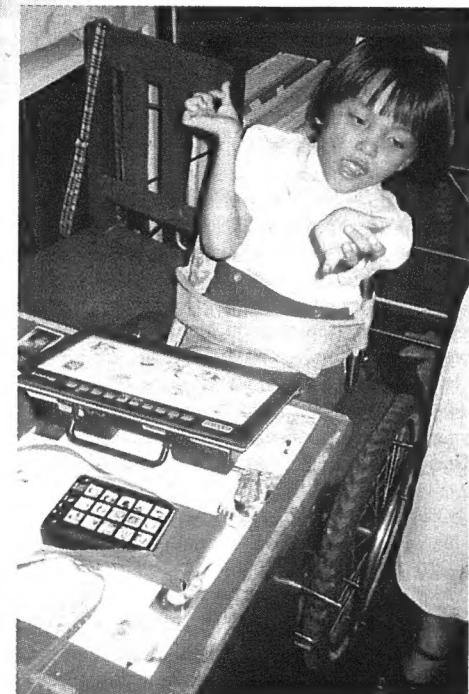
"They are very determined to make changes but also realize they can't do it all themselves."

The deaf manage to succeed well enough because they can sell goods in the market using a calculator to display prices. A staggering 45 per cent of Thailand's population are employed as street vendors in Bangkok's market, and since many customers don't speak Thai anyway, the deaf are not as disadvantaged.

In general, the status of Thailand's disabled is improving, not only because of committed organizations lobbying the government on their behalf, but also because the king and princess of Thailand have adopted disability as a kind of cause célèbre, says Cook. In fact plans are in the works to host an international conference on assistive technology to coincide with

celebrations of King Bhumibol Adulyadej's 72 years on the throne. "The royal family is very much in evidence and very revered. So it has high visibility," says Cook.

The Thai government has been extremely receptive to the insights and recommendations of



the six-member Canadian delegation, says Cook, making it clear they'd like to continue working with Canada on a steering policy for the disabled in the future.

"They are very determined to make changes but also realize they can't do it all themselves. When they only produce five speech pathologists a year, they know they're never going to catch up, so they have to find other ways — whether it's teachers who take on some of these skills or volunteers in the communities." ■

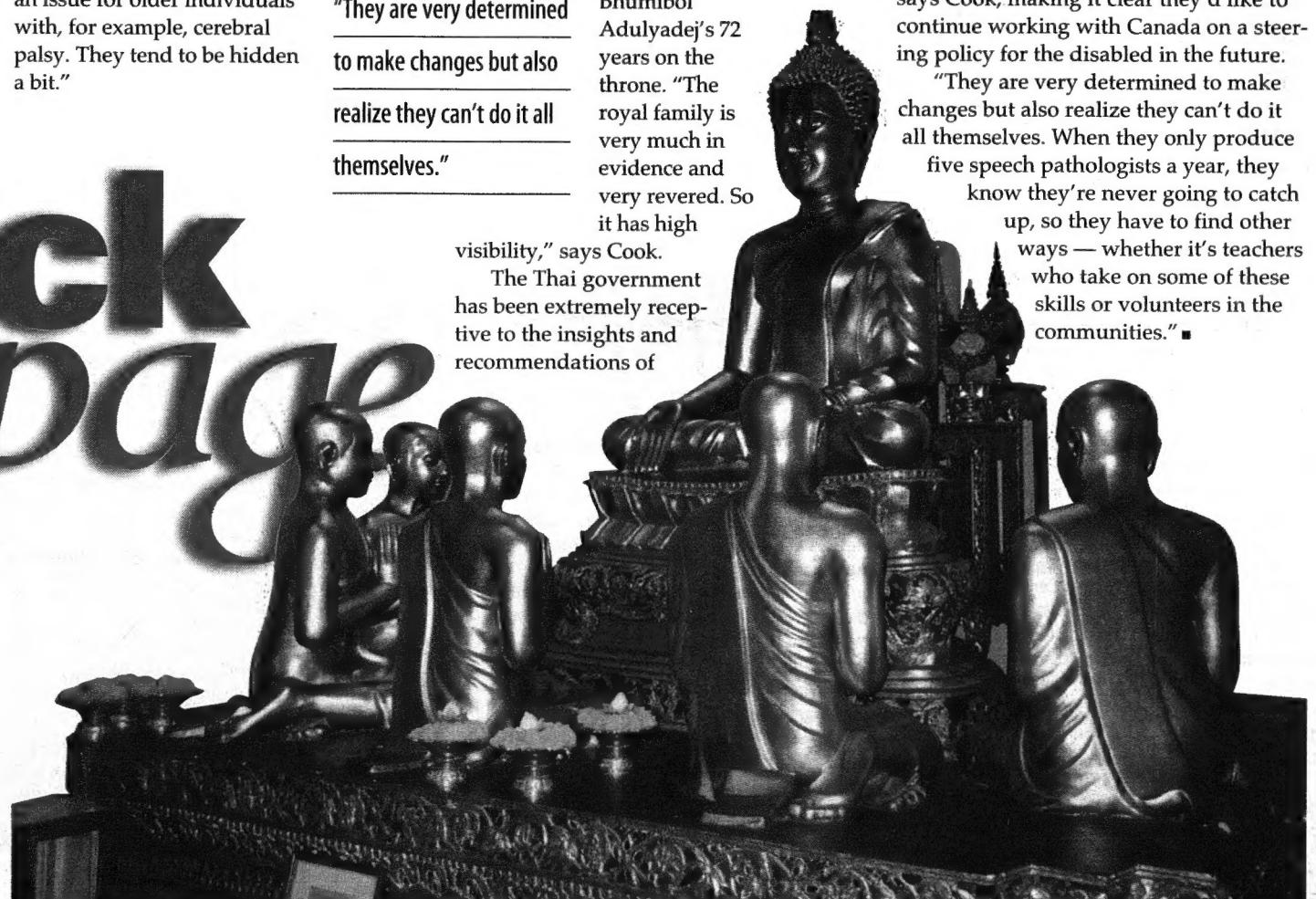
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page

Photos clockwise:

Making paper at an umbrella factory, Chiangmai.

Srisangwal School, Bangkok.

Preparing fish in a market, Hua Hin.



All photos courtesy of Albert Cook